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Social Welfare, Labor, On Legislative Calendars Of States With 1940 Sessions

Changes in unemployment compensation and other social welfare laws, and provisions for labor and education are among measures scheduled for attention in the seven state legislatures which convene in regular session this week and next, reports from the states to the Council of State Governments indicated today. New or increased taxes are not generally anticipated.

Kentucky, Mississippi and Rhode Island legislatures meet to-morrow (Jan. 2); New York starts its session Wednesday (Jan. 3); New Jersey and South Carolina Jan. 9; and Virginia, Jan. 10. Louisiana, the only other state with a regular session in 1940, will meet in May.

The year may also see a number of special sessions, the Council said, in view of the changes made by Congress granting expansion of social security aid to the states. These amendments, expanding federal aid to dependent children, for old age assistance and the needy blind, were approved after many of the 44 regular sessions of 1939 had adjourned.

At least three states--South Carolina, New York and New Jersey--will discuss revisions of their unemployment compensation laws which would lower the employer-tax rates in firms with good employment records. This is known as the merit rating plan. Action by Congress restricting the federal payroll tax on employers to the first \$3,000 of an employee's salary may result in corresponding changes by states this year, also in relation to unemployment compensation acts.

Mississippi, in regular session, and California and Illinois, in "specials," are expected to consider increases in old age assistance, in order to take advantage of the federal government's offer to pay 50 per cent of individual pensions up to \$40 per month. Present old age assistance actually granted, however, averages only about \$20 for the 48 states, and in 16 states the average has been under \$15 per person.

(MORE)

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Labor measures will be discussed in several states. A proposal for establishing a state labor department is reported from Mississippi. South Carolina is expected to revive last year's measure to consolidate the labor department with the industrial commission and the unemployment compensation commission. Virginia may consider a labor relations bill which would require labor and management to lay disputes before a part-time board of conciliation before calling a strike or lockout. California will probably discuss a state labor relations agency in a special session.

Additional aid for local education will be sought in Virginia, New York and Mississippi. Mississippi is to consider a plan for financial aid to students in state colleges, as well as a proposal for free textbooks for elementary grades and improved teachers' pay and retirement provisions.

Election laws may get an overhauling in Rhode Island, Virginia and New Jersey, according to report. Civil service systems for state employees may be proposed in South Carolina and Virginia.

Bills of several kinds designed to facilitate interstate relations are planned in New Jersey. One is an interstate agreement with New York dealing with shad fisheries in the Hudson river. A proposal to change the assessment date for personal property to January 1, as in effect in 19 states, is also anticipated.

Virginia will give consideration to many aspects of its penal system, including the administration of probation and parole. The Virginia Legislative Advisory Council has recommended the substitution of a straight salary for a fee system of compensating sheriffs and city sergeants, and abolition of the office of constable. A division of correction within the state welfare department has also been recommended.

Other subjects reported on legislative calendars are: pre-marital health examinations, in Virginia; biennial legislative sessions, in South Carolina; regulation of municipal borrowing on bonds, in Rhode Island; construction of farm-to-market road system, in Mississippi; reduction of settlement requirement from five years to one, in New Jersey; legalization of lotteries, in New York; and creation of a state power commission, in Kentucky.

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Police - Communication - Radio

Police-Radio Systems Become Major Weapon Against Crime

The development of radio as a major weapon against crime was shown by the International Association of Chiefs of Police today in reporting the growth of police-radio systems since 1928, when Detroit set up the first successful municipally-owned police-radio system.

Since the Detroit venture--which followed years of experiment by police officials of many cities--police-radio systems have been established by approximately 900 municipalities on wave lengths assigned by the Federal Communications Commission.

The final system adopted by Detroit--broadcasting over a short-wave station to cruising police cars equipped with radio receivers tuned to that station alone--is, in essence, the system adopted by municipalities generally. Police cars of many cities are equipped to send as well as receive messages.

The major growth in the use of police-radio came early in 1935. In April of that year there were 184 municipal police-radio systems in operation. By the end of 1938, the figure had grown to 668. About 45 stations are under construction.

As an indication of the rapid growth in the use of municipal police-radio systems, the Association cited California, Michigan, New York, New Jersey and other states in which many cities have adopted this form of communication.

In California alone, more than 90 municipalities operate police-radio systems--an increase of 71 over the number in operation in 1935. Seventy-one New Jersey cities or townships operate radio systems, while New York has 64; Massachusetts, 56; Pennsylvania, 43; and Michigan, 37.

The Association said that cooperation among police departments in metropolitan areas has made possible the use of only a few broadcasting stations for many police jurisdictions. The Chicago police department was the first to offer radio service to other communities in a metropolitan area, and at present three Chicago police transmitters serve more than 50 other police jurisdictions covering three counties with a combined area of 1,328 square miles and a population of more than 4,000,000.

The development of state-owned and operated radio systems has paralleled that of municipal systems since 1935, when 11 states operated approximately 40 stations, the Association said. By the end of 1939, the figure had risen to 210 stations in 28 states. State radio systems are operated, usually, by state police and highway departments.

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Aliens - legislation

Three States Have Laws Requiring Registration Of Aliens

A recent decision by a U.S. district court holding unconstitutional Pennsylvania's law requiring registration of aliens in the state leaves at least three states with alien registration laws, information from the Attorney-Generals' section of the Council of State Governments showed today.

The three states are North Carolina and Massachusetts, where alien registration laws were passed in 1927 and 1935 respectively; and New York, where the statute was enacted in 1917.

Had the Pennsylvania law, enacted this year, become effective--it was held unconstitutional Nov. 30, the day before its effective date--aliens would have had to register annually with the state Department of Labor and Industry, and exhibit identification cards upon proper demand.

In declaring the law unconstitutional, the court held that individual states have no authority to exercise any special control over aliens, that the law denied the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment, and that it placed aliens under constant police surveillance merely because they were aliens. The state contended the law was nothing more than a census law.

A Michigan alien registration law, enacted in 1930, also was declared unconstitutional.

The original intent of the New York law was to give the governor added powers during war times. Under the statute, the governor may issue a proclamation requiring registration of aliens whenever "a state of war exists or whenever, in the judgment of the governor, public safety requires such action." The proclamation becomes effective 24 hours after issuance.

Aliens are liable to fine and imprisonment if they fail to register after issuance of such a proclamation, according to the law. Hotels, boarding houses and private residences are subject to penalties if they do not notify authorities of the presence of aliens.

The Council pointed out that several measures relating to aliens would be considered during the session of Congress opening today, and that a senatorial study of immigration laws may be undertaken.

Citizenship - Education

Public relations

Citizens Study Government In Action

Municipal governments in many parts of the country are making special efforts to give citizens more than a speaking acquaintance with city hall problems, information from the International City Managers' Association showed today.

In Cleveland, O., Mayor Harold H. Burton and seven city department heads recently delivered a series of lectures at Western Reserve university on problems of municipal administration. The lectures were open to the public without charge, and reading lists were provided at each meeting for those interested in further study.

Before each council meeting, Mayor Frank Gaines of Berkeley, Calif., is especially inviting ten citizens to attend. The mayor's purpose is to inform citizens, "as fellow stockholders in the business of Berkeley," of the way their government is operating.

In Montebello, another California city, a municipal "open house" held recently drew 3,000 of the 7,500 population. Citizens saw among other things, the new two-way police radio and the fire engine in action. They received a 12-page pamphlet which told them where the money came from to operate the city and how it was spent in 1939.

Public libraries in several communities, including Des Moines, Ia., Gary, Ind., and Hunterdon county, N.J., report efforts to acquaint citizens with governmental problems through sponsorship of forums or special book displays. The Des Moines library recently showed an exhibit including a list of the names of congressmen in the area and current books on major national questions, to aid voters in expressing their opinions to their representatives in Washington.

In Chicago last year, the Board of Education, with the assistance of the Work Projects Administration, conducted an extended series of "Know Your Government" tours which covered 36 municipal departments. The tours were free, and were intended to encourage the study of modern American government.

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Real Property - Valuation

Guide To Standardize Urban Assessments Issued

A guide for assessors of urban property who wish to lessen the "guess" element in assessing by adopting a standardized system of appraisal was issued by the National Association of Assessing Officers today.

The study, entitled "Urban Land Appraisal," is a detailed outline of the practices and techniques which have been developed over a long period by progressive assessing officers, the Association said.

Urban land, it was pointed out, represents a highly important part of the tax base. In New York City, for example, land, exclusive of improvements, bears 45 per cent of all property taxes. In Chicago, the percentage is 32. In smaller cities, the proportion is found to be less, as a rule, but it is substantial.

City property is especially difficult to appraise, the study said, because of four factors. First, no two parcels of land are exactly alike. Second, the economic life of land is practically unlimited, hence it is impossible to secure an accurate estimate of the future income which gives its present value. Third, the fact that land is not "produced" eliminates the possibility of measuring its value by the cost of reproducing it. Finally, land is not transferred often enough to permit exclusive reliance on sales as a measure of value.

The guide was prepared, the Association said, in an attempt to familiarize all assessing officers with the most advanced techniques used today. Most of the standard rules or "yardsticks" used in the measurement of urban land values are described in detail. It is pointed out that the use of a set of standard rules, which can be applied alike by both assessors and taxpayers, is the most effective guarantee of uniform and impartial appraisals that has yet been discovered.

Although all assessors use the so-called comparative method of appraising land--comparing one lot whose value is known with a lot of unknown value having identical or similar characteristics--frequently they do not consciously follow any rules, the Association said. If they would adopt standardized procedures, according to the Association, they could increase the probability of accurate appraisals. Standardized methods can also be more quickly applied than non-standardized appraisal procedures.

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Police Supply Night Banking Service In Ohio City

East Cleveland, suburb of Cleveland, O., offers a night banking service through its police department, the International City Managers' Association reported today. Deposit boxes are maintained at police headquarters for the safekeeping of cash and other valuables of local merchants because the banks lack outside safety deposit vaults for night use.

The city keeps a card index on every depositor, and gives him a key to a safety deposit box. When a package is deposited or withdrawn, the messenger signs a book kept especially for the purpose which contains the original signatures of all deposit box users. Two keys--the depositor's and a master key--are required to open each box. The city is not liable for loss.

Theaters, automobile dealers, drug stores, and department stores are making heavy use of the deposit service.

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New York City Starts State-Financed And City-Financed Housing

The first public housing projects in the United States financed wholly by local and state governments have been announced for New York City, the National Association of Housing Officials said today.

Construction of Vladeck City Houses, a 240-family development, is under way, financed entirely by local bond issues allowed under 1939 legislation.

The state-financed project, a 22 to 24 million dollar development, is to be built by the city housing authority with state aid, and will involve the first use of state funds for local public housing in the country. The State Division of Housing, which is awaiting decision on what type of bonds it can issue, has not yet given its formal approval to the project. This project according to present plans, will house nearly 4,000 families in the city's Navy Yard area, and will be ready for occupancy by the spring of 1941.

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City Grants State-Financed And City-Financed Housing

The first public housing projects in the United States financed wholly by state funds were the two-story, four-unit houses at 100 West 10th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, which were completed in 1915. The state-financed project, a 22 to 24 million dollar development, is to be financed entirely by local bond issues allowed under 1939 legislation.

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Few New Taxes Added by States in 1939

Few new taxes were added by legislatures to state statute books in 1939, a survey by the Federation of Tax Administrators showed today. The adoption of the tobacco tax by five states, the use tax by four, and the income tax by the District of Columbia were the only major changes in the tax map during the year. All of the seven state tax proposals submitted to voters were defeated.

An excise tax on the receipts from the performance rights of musical compositions--first introduced this year--was adopted by Vermont, Florida, Kansas and North Dakota, but is not looked upon as a major revenue producer, according to the Federation.

Adoption of the tobacco tax by Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Wisconsin, brought to 26 the number of states deriving revenue from the smoker.

The use tax, which supplements sales taxes already in effect by making similar levies on articles purchased outside the state for use in the state, was made effective in New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota and South Dakota. Of the 23 states with sales taxes, all but six now have use taxes.

The income tax levied on wage-earners in residence in the District of Columbia will be at a rate of one to three per cent on incomes of \$5,000 or more. Thirty-four states and the District now tax personal or corporate income or both.

Today's picture of major taxes in the 48 states is shown in the accompanying table. All states have gasoline, motor vehicle, and unemployment compensation (payroll) taxes. Death taxes are levied in all states but Nevada.

(MORE)

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TAXES CURRENTLY EFFECTIVE IN THE STATES

(Gas, auto, payroll taxes: all states. Inheritance tax: all states but Nevada)

<u>State</u>	<u>Property</u> ¹	<u>Income</u>	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Tobacco</u>	<u>Alcoholic Beverage</u> ²
ALABAMA	x-1	x	x	x	x	x
ARIZONA	x-1	x	x		x	x
ARKANSAS	x	x	x		x	x
CALIFORNIA		x	x	x		x
COLORADO	x-1	x	x	x		x
CONNECTICUT	x	x			x	x
DELAWARE		x				x
FLORIDA	x					x
GEORGIA	x	x			x	x
IDAHO	x-1	x				x
ILLINOIS			x			
INDIANA	x		x			x
IOWA	x	x	x	x	x	x
KANSAS	x	x	x	x	x	
KENTUCKY	x	x			x	x
LOUISIANA	x	x	x	x	x	x
MAINE	x					x
MARYLAND	x-1	x				x
MASSACHUSETTS	x-1	x			x	x
MICHIGAN			x	x		x
MINNESOTA	x	x				
MISSISSIPPI	x-1	x	x	x	x	
MISSOURI	x	x	x			x
MONTANA	x	x				x
NEBRASKA	x					x
NEVADA	x					x
NEW HAMPSHIRE					x	x
NEW JERSEY	x					x
NEW MEXICO	x	x	x	x		x
NEW YORK		x			x	x
NORTH CAROLINA		x	x	x		x
NORTH DAKOTA	x-1	x	x	x	x	x
OHIO			x	x	x	x
OKLAHOMA		x	x	x	x	
OREGON	x-1	x				x
PENNSYLVANIA		x			x	x
RHODE ISLAND					x	x
SOUTH CAROLINA	x-1	x			x	x
SOUTH DAKOTA		x	x	x	x	x
TENNESSEE	x-1	x			x	x
TEXAS	x				x	x
UTAH	x-1	x	x	x	x	x
VERMONT		x			x	x
VIRGINIA		x				
WASHINGTON	x-1		x	x	x	x
WEST VIRGINIA	x	x	x			x
WISCONSIN	x-1	x			x	x
WYOMING	x		x	x		x
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	x	x				x

¹States taxing real property, intangibles, and tangible personalty: x²States taxing real property and tangible personalty: x-1²Kansas, Mississippi, and Oklahoma, dry states, levy taxes on 3.2 per cent beer and wine.

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Survey Of Municipal Finance Field Shows Many Developments In 1939

The extension of state control over municipal accounts, an intensified professional spirit among city finance officers and the development of new local revenue sources highlighted developments in the municipal finance field during 1939, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the U.S. and Canada said today.

As the new year starts, the disposition of tax-delinquent and tax-reverted land stands out as the administrative and legal problem most in need of attention, the Association said.

In the accounting field, state control over local accounts and audits was extended in at least five states--Connecticut, Kentucky, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Wyoming, the Association said. Massachusetts and Rhode Island reorganized their general accounting systems. Local developments were numerous: Indiana's three largest counties installed modern tax-accounting machinery. Portland, Ore., Nashville, Tenn., Peoria, Ill., and New York City undertook extensive revisions of their accounting systems. Sentiment against competitive bidding for municipal audits became stronger.

Relatively minor events typified developments in the municipal revenue field. There was an increased use of parking meters to control traffic and obtain more revenue according to the Association. A few cities adopted tobacco taxes. Several Florida municipalities imposed garbage collection charges to offset revenue lost through homestead exemptions. A few state governments passed laws distributing larger shares of state-collected revenues to localities.

The desire of many local finance officers during 1939 to attend and participate in training schools was evidence of an intensified professional spirit, the Association said. The value of such training as preparation for more responsible positions was shown in the number of finance officers promoted last year. The desire by cities for better trained officials was shown, also, by the \$1,000 gift to the Association from the city of Louisville, Ky., to establish an annual award to finance officers for outstanding public service.

The trend toward state-wide pension or retirement plans for local employes continued as such plans were enacted in California, Illinois and North Carolina. Several large cities adopted retirement programs for all employes. Coverage of all public employes under the Federal Social Security Act was discussed frequently and, the Association said, such coverage seems inevitable if legal obstacles can be met.

The Association said that although Congress last year gave up the idea of taxing income from state and municipal bonds, it probably will discuss the proposal again this year and next. Interest rates on municipal bonds experienced a rapid drop in May and June, and, because of the European situation, a correspondingly sharp increase in August and September. However, at the close of the year interest rates on municipal borrowing seemed headed for a new low, according to the Association.

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Research Developments In Planning Take Limelight In 1939

The job of fact-finding in planning at all levels of government gained increasing recognition in 1939, reports to the American Society of Planning Officials showed today. The development of research was one of the major accomplishments in planning during the year, the Society said.

"Not only is there evidence that planners are concerned with problems of industry and business, but many industrial and commercial groups and their leaders are showing awareness of the general methods and specific techniques of planning as developed within governmental levels," the Society said.

The variety and scope of special investigations by state planning agencies of the problems of their areas is illustrated by research projects such as the following:

New Hampshire's State Planning Board and Development Commission studied industrial opportunities in the state. Massachusetts surveyed land use in 300 towns and rural districts, and made an extensive study of water resources and recreation possibilities. The Virginia, Nebraska and Washington planning agencies made special education surveys. California and Mississippi state planning boards investigated housing conditions. Fourteen states studied the economic aspects of industry and agriculture, and 15 studied governmental finance and taxes.

Although research studies for local planning showed a wide range during the year, land-use and real property surveys were most frequent, according to the reports. Chicago, Ill., Concord, N.H. and Des Moines, Ia., were among cities making land-use studies which demonstrated the new realistic approach of city planning to questions of urban land-use policy, it was pointed out.

With the aid of the Work Projects Administration, more than 1200 research jobs--surveys, compilations, maps and analyses--were done by planning agencies for cities, counties and state and federal departments. A number of city plan commissions undertook traffic and transportation surveys. State and regional planning agencies found helpful the highway planning surveys completed for more than 40 states in 1939 under joint auspices of the federal Public Roads Administration and the various state highway departments.

The Society noted as important to local and state planning the statutory establishment, in the Executive office of the President, of the federal planning agency--the National Resources Planning Board--in 1939. This agency was first set up in 1933 as the National Planning Board of the Public Works Administration. The functions of the Board are to collect for the President information about the use and development of national resources, to advise him on measures for improving economic conditions, to prepare plans for federal public works, and to act as a clearing house for planning on the various levels of government.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The following is a summary of the findings of the study conducted by the Bureau of Economic Research, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc., and the National Planning Commission, Inc., in 1957, regarding the planning and development of the rural areas of the United States.

During the year, the Society said, "Not only is there evidence that planners are concerned with problems of rural development, but also that they are becoming more and more interested in the rural areas of the United States. This is true of the various levels of government, from the local to the national level," the Society said.

The variety and scope of special investigations by state planning agencies of the problems of their areas is illustrated by research projects such as the following:

New Hampshire's State Planning Board and Development Commission studied the problems of the rural areas of the State, including the problems of the small towns, and made an extensive study of water resources and recreation and rural districts. California and Mississippi state planning boards investigated housing conditions. Fourteen states studied the economic aspects of industry and agriculture, and 15 studied governmental finance and taxes.

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Kansas City, Kan., Adds Market Terminal To Municipal Utilities

Kansas City, Kan., which has just opened for business one of the largest wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in the country, brings the number of cities of over 5,000 population with municipal markets to about 175, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The Kansas City food terminal occupies 62 acres on the raised levee where the Kaw and the Missouri rivers meet. It was built by the municipality with financial aid from the Union Pacific Railroad and federal works funds, while the Kansas State Highway Commission constructed a viaduct which eliminates grade crossings at the entrance to the market property.

Planned to serve farmers and food wholesalers from 10 to 15 states in the area around Kansas City, the market contains 78 units in four main produce buildings. Each unit has an elevator, mezzanine office space and display and storage rooms. In addition, there is a five-story cold storage warehouse, a filling station, telegraph office, bank, nearly 500 stalls for truck farmers and small growers, parking space for thousands of cars, and switch tracks to bring freight cars to the market door.

The Kansas City market is administered by the city, through a market master appointed by the mayor. The city auditor will be in direct charge of its financial administration.

Municipal wholesale or retail produce markets have now been built in most of the major cities of the country, according to the Association. Competition from distant produce centers through fast transportation, and the need for an orderly and economical distribution of foodstuffs within metropolitan areas are reasons for new market building or reconstruction of outdated terminals, some of which are more than 100 years old.

Among cities which recently have constructed new markets, planned to meet changing conditions, are Memphis, Tenn., Minneapolis, Minn., Syracuse, N.Y., and Grand Rapids, Mich. Kansas City, Mo., plans to rebuild its old food market now for retail use only.

Motor vehicles - Regulation

Colored "Stickers" Help Enforce New Washington, D.C., Car Inspection Law

A system of red, yellow and green "stickers" has been adopted to help in the enforcement of the new Washington, D.C., compulsory motor vehicle inspection law, information from the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today.

The colored "stickers" are pasted on automobiles after they have been tested by the city's vehicle and traffic department, and enable policemen to tell at a glance the mechanical condition of an automobile.

Another feature of the new compulsory inspection law, passed by Congress last year to assist in the campaign against defective motor vehicles, is the provision that, if an automobile is found seriously defective, its owner must have the machine towed to a garage at his own expense and have the defect corrected.

Although all automobiles must be tested annually at stations operated by the department of vehicles and traffic, the police department has the authority to stop and inspect any automobile.

A green sticker is pasted on the windshield if an automobile has been tested and found mechanically safe for operation on streets and highways. The red sticker indicates a minor mechanical defect of some character or other which the owner or operator of the car is given 10 days to correct.

The yellow sticker was adopted for automobiles which officials believe should be removed immediately from the streets. In this category are machines with bad brakes, bad steering, or other mechanical defects which might contribute to accidents.

Owners of automobiles which draw the yellow sticker are not permitted to operate these machines again until positive proof of a corrected mechanical condition is established with the director of vehicles and traffic. After these cars are inspected, either at the police station or the testing stations, the owners are not permitted to operate the machines, but must have them towed to the garage.

Recreation - Calif.

"Old Timers Club" In El Segundo, Calif., Provides Recreation For Oldsters

The belief that old folks are not so versatile as the young in finding amusements led to the development of the "Old Timers Club," a unique municipal recreation project in El Segundo, Calif., according to information today from the American Municipal Association.

The club was established without a dissenting vote by the El Segundo city council. A vacant store building near the city hall was rented by the city, and the club was furnished with a radio, desks, tables and chairs donated by interested citizens. Other furnishings owned by the city were renovated and moved to the club.

The formal opening of the club was sponsored by the city fire department, and the name "Old Timers Club" was chosen by a vote of the "old timers" present at the opening ceremonies.

The city supplies playing cards, cribbage and checker boards, chess games, shuffleboards and other entertainment equipment. Cost of operation and maintenance of the club, including rent, light, heat, water and janitor service, is approximately \$40 a month.

* * *

Police - ...

New York Police Experiment With Radio In Gathering Evidence

Experiments on policemen's use of undetectable radio transmitters while gathering evidence are being conducted by the New York City police department, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

Under the present experimental procedure, the microphone is hidden under a policeman's vest. Police officials report that the instrument can pick up conversation between an officer and another person and broadcast it more than 200 feet. The "broadcast" may be picked up by a specially equipped patrol car or by a hidden receiver, according to the Association.

The Association pointed out that the Lincoln Park, Mich., police department is experimenting with the use of a portable radio receiver which fits in a policeman's pocket. The equipment, weighing two and a half pounds and operated by flashlight batteries, can pick up messages broadcast from the police station two miles away.

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Trend Toward Uniform Assessment Dates Shown By Survey

A trend among the states toward establishing January 1st as a uniform tax assessment date, partly in order to prevent tax evasion through the movement of property across state boundaries, was shown today in a report prepared by the National Association of Assessing Officers. The report showed that of 18 states which have January 1st dates, six--Arkansas, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Washington, North Carolina and Maryland--joined the group within the last 12 years.

The most recent changes were made in 1939 by North Carolina, where the legislature moved the assessment date up from April 1st, and by Maryland. Maryland's assessment date, which had varied considerably from county to county, was established definitely as January 1st except for two counties and the City of Baltimore, where it is in October.

The assessment date determines one or more of three things, the Association said. (1) Ownership on the assessment date determines who pays the tax on a piece of property. (2) The tax on a property is usually levied upon its value on the assessment date. (3) If the property is movable and tangible, its location on the assessment date often determines what tax districts may levy taxes on it.

One of the principal reasons for desiring uniform assessment dates is to prevent an owner from moving his property across a state line to keep it from being in either state on the assessment date. For example, property could be held on January 1st in a state with a February 1st assessment date, then moved into a state with a January 1st date before the end of the month.

The Association said that a uniform, or even an exact, assessment date is not essential for real property since its location does not change, its value changes slowly, and delinquent taxes usually are collected by enforcement of a tax lien rather than by a suit against a person.

In addition to the states with January 1st assessment dates, two states--Idaho and Tennessee--have January dates, on the second Monday and the 10th respectively. April 1st is the assessment date in seven states--Colorado, Illinois, Maine, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Vermont. In Michigan there is some variation among home-rule cities, but the second Monday in April is the usual date.

Assessment dates vary from month to month in the other states: March--California, Indiana, Kansas, Montana and Oregon; May--Minnesota, South Dakota and Wisconsin; October--Alabama, Connecticut and New Jersey; June--Missouri and Rhode Island; July--Kentucky and New York, with the exception of some cities; February--Wyoming. Ohio uses January 1st as the assessment date for personalty and the second Monday in April for realty.

Arizona, Delaware, Nevada and Pennsylvania have no fixed dates that are uniform either throughout the state or for all important classes of property. In Pennsylvania, for example, the assessment date for the state personal property tax may be set by the revenue department between January 1st and 15th; county personal property tax assessment dates vary somewhat but fall for the most part on December 31st; and there is no provision for a real property tax assessment date.

Many States Engage In Aviation Promotional Activities

The growth of aviation in industrial and commercial fields has resulted in efforts by many states to stimulate the development of aviation industries, information from the Council of State Governments showed today. The states seek not only to attract new industries, but to develop and expand their present air facilities.

Although most states have set up commissions to regulate their aviation laws, the most recent efforts to stimulate development of air industries have been made in the New England states, notably Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, according to reports. About 90 per cent, in dollar value, of the output of airplane engines is concentrated in East Hartford, Conn., and Paterson, N.J.

The Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission, appointed last September by the governor, reports that its duties comprise overseeing and checking up on state airports, assisting in the development of new airports, and "endeavoring to bring the factories of manufacturing concerns to the state."

The Connecticut Aeronautical Development Commission, created by the state's 1939 general assembly, was established "to study airports and airways, to promote aviation and the aviation industry," and to report to the 1941 general assembly on matters of aviation policy. Rhode Island's Governor's Committee on Aviation must, as one of its duties, "promote aviation generally throughout the state."

Besides state aviation officials, members of the Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island committees include aviation industrial leaders and technicians. A meeting of the Connecticut commission was held recently in an effort to work with the Civil Aeronautics Commission in the development of aviation. Federal officials told New England and New Jersey airline executives and state officials of the contribution aviation could make toward solving unemployment. They said they expected an increase of 800 per cent in working personnel in the aviation industry within the next few years.

The Council of State Governments pointed out that aviation commissions of at least 22 states are members of the National Association of State Aviation Officials, which reports that "all members of the Association engage in promotion and regulation activities." Promotional activities are carried on for airport construction and development, airway aids, and education and training.

States which are members of this organization are Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.

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10 per cent in working personnel in the aviation industry within the next year.

New Type Of Municipal Cooperation Inaugurated By Cities In Eastern States

A new type of interstate municipal cooperation has been launched by officials of cities in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, the American Municipal Association reported today. The plan is based on direct cooperation among officials of a region on pressing problems of local government.

City officials of two other states--Massachusetts and Connecticut--have been invited to join the group in planning methods of solving local governmental problems, and to cooperate in gaining support of state legislatures in efforts to work out solutions.

The mayors of 10 cities in New York and New Jersey, and representatives of the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania municipal leagues, were present when the plan was launched recently at a meeting in New York City.

Municipal finance--especially in the field of real estate taxation--headed the agenda of problems needing prompt consideration because "the revenue problem today overshadows all other local governmental issues," according to Conrad J. Heiselman, mayor of Kingston, N.Y., and president of the New York Conference of Mayors and Other Municipal Officials. The meeting was called by Mayor Heiselman.

The conferees agreed unanimously on the following points:

1---There is a great need for a broadened tax base to reduce the municipal tax on real estate.

2---The local tax on real estate could be reduced substantially by transferring costs of education, public welfare and highways to the state, and costs of airport construction and maintenance to the federal government.

3---The municipal service problem cannot be solved by reducing governmental costs without impairing essential local services.

4---There is some need for increased revenues to pay for increasing costs of local services and pensions, maintenance of improvements initiated under Federal works programs, and needed street repairs neglected during the worst years of the depression.

5---Local governmental units which receive no part of the revenue from state-collected motor vehicle and gasoline taxes should receive their fair share of such revenue, to be used for highway purposes.

The delegates suggested four possible new state-collected, locally-shared taxes which a state might levy and which, they believed, would yield sufficient income to solve the municipal revenue problem. They were: (1) a state-wide sales and use tax; (2) a gross receipts tax; (3) a wage and salary tax; and (4) a gross income tax in those states which do not have a net income tax.

Of the various methods suggested as a means of reducing the local tax on real estate, a majority of the delegates to the conference suggested an income, gross receipts or sales tax to finance the cost of education and relief.

All delegates agreed there should be a proper allocation of the gasoline and motor vehicle taxes in all the states.

Medical service - Group plan

Insurance

Two New Health Insurance Plans For Public Employees Established

Group health insurance plans for public employees, set up for several governmental groups during the past few years, were established for state employees in California and for utility employees of Hamilton, O., in 1939, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

The California State Employees' Association arranged for low-cost medical service with the California Physicians' Service, to cover all employees earning \$3,000 or less a year. Medical and surgical care and 21 days' hospitalization are provided for a \$2.50-a-month fee.

Hamilton recently added provisions for hospital and surgical care to a group insurance plan in effect since 1937 which includes retirement annuities, sickness and accident benefits and life insurance. A private insurance company writes the whole program.

Under the plan in force in Hamilton, the city and the employee share the cost of life insurance and retirement contributions. Insurance against sickness and accidents, as well as for hospitalization and surgical care, is paid for entirely by the employee. Hospital and surgical coverage cost \$0.80-\$1.10 a month, depending on salary.

Most of the low-cost medical care plans in existence for governmental employees have been adopted on the West Coast, the Assembly pointed out. The Ross-Loos Medical Group, organized in 1929 in Los Angeles City and County at the original request of water and power employees, now has approximately 21,000 subscribers, including governmental workers and employees of private business. The Ross-Loos clinic charges a fee of \$2.50 a month, which pays for services of general practitioners, specialists and surgeons, in the home, clinic, or hospital.

San Francisco, whose electorate approved a compulsory health insurance plan for municipal employees in 1937, now has approximately 10,000 workers covered, each paying \$2.25 a month for individual care or a slightly larger amount if dependents are included.

Other cities in which group insurance plans are in effect for municipal employees include San Diego, Calif., and Washington, D.C. The Group Health Association, started by Home Owners' Loan Corporation employees in 1937, has enrolled members from about 40 federal agencies. Hospitalization plans only are provided for municipal employees in Toledo, Cleveland and Akron, O., and for employees of the New York City Post Office Department.

Cities Show Wide Range In Refuse Collection Figures

A wide variation in the quantity of municipal refuse collected by American cities was indicated today in preliminary figures from a nationwide survey now under way by the American Public Works Association.

For 1938, the year on which the study is based, figures from sample cities which collect all kinds of refuse--garbage, ashes and rubbish--showed that some cities were collecting two and one-half times as much as others, in terms of pounds per capita.

The study, to be completed soon, will analyze collection practices for garbage, rubbish, ashes and other types of refuse, as well as information on amounts collected and methods of disposal in a large number of municipalities. Cities of all sizes are included in the study.

If refuse collection administrators had an accurate knowledge of the trend in the per capita quantity of refuse to be collected, they would be better able to plan their collection programs and predict financial needs, the study pointed out. Lack of comparable data and absence of uniformly continuing policies make this difficult, although numerous cities keep detailed records and utilize the information in operating their collection systems, according to the Association.

Collection practices vary among the cities, the study showed. Cities may collect garbage alone, garbage and combustible rubbish, rubbish and ashes, etc., while a number of them collect all kinds of waste at one time.

The amounts of refuse collected vary from city to city because of different limitations on the kinds collected, or because property owners voluntarily dispose of some refuse. The character of the communities, habits of the people, season of the year, geographical location, climate and economic conditions are among other reasons for differences.

Information from cities already studied showed the following ranges and averages per capita for the year 1938.

	Low	High	Average	No. Cities
All refuse together.....	572 lbs.	1,488 lbs.	710 lbs.	16
Garbage(collected separately).....	66 "	526 "	234 "	47
Rubbish (collected separately).....	166 "	532 "	326 "	11
Ashes (collected separately).....	362 "	548 "	397 "	4
Garbage and combustible rubbish.....	160 "	944 "	422 "	38
Rubbish and ashes.....	0.29 cu.yd.	2.52 cu.yd.	1 cu.yd.	28
Ashes and noncombustible rubbish....	0.18 cu.yd.	1.33 cu.yd.	.82 cu.yd.	18

Planners Map New Site For Missouri Town

Greenville, Mo., population 500, is pulling up stakes to move to a new site, one and one-half miles up the road. The new town was designed by professional planners at the request of its citizens, the American Society of Planning Officials reported today.

The town's present site, along the St. Francis river, will be submerged in the reservoir area created by a new dam constructed on the Mississippi. The future site will be east of the main highway.

A feature of the new Greenville will be a public parking area, laid out between the business block fronting the main highway and the church buildings, which will stand adjacent to the residence area to the east. This parking space will serve those visiting the shops, the churches, and the county court house, which will be north of the business section.

The residence district, to be developed on higher ground, will have streets curved to fit the topography and planned to give the best advantage in individual building sites. Dead-end streets will give property owners more privacy, greater safety and a more pleasing grouping of houses. All but a few of the lots in the center of the town will abut on the public area, where cows or horses can be pastured. Revenue from the pasture privileges will be used for maintenance of the town parks.

* * *

Schenectady, N.Y., Hands Out Municipal Report With Tax Receipt

Schenectady, N.Y., has adopted a new method of distributing the city's annual report, the International City Managers' Association noted today. A copy is given out with every tax receipt.

About 9,000 copies of the 1939 report were given out in this way, or one for every two and one-half families. In addition, about 1,500 copies were given to representative citizens either by mail or by distribution at club meetings, and 500 were put in the school libraries. Junior high schools are using the report as a textbook for the study of local government, and the high schools make use of it as a reference book.

The report was followed last year by an exhibit of municipal activities in the city museum. The exhibition, viewed by several thousand persons, showed much of the equipment used by the city. Employees were stationed at all booths to explain the displays. A special feature was the daily demonstration of specific work, such as making sweeper brooms, operating a two-way radio, testing milk, and operating fire-fighting apparatus.

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Mem. for JOINT REFERENCE 1941

Municipalities Plan Local Governmental Programs For 1940

The desire for an increased share in state-collected revenues was shown today in municipal programs for 1940 adopted by cities in at least 25 states, according to an analysis by the American Municipal Association. This need for additional funds is created, in part, by demands for additional municipal services and a shrinkage in local real estate values.

At the same time the municipalities, through their state leagues, call for more equitable insurance rates on municipal buildings, for increase in home rule, and for a strong opposition to provisions of the Federal Banking Act of 1935 prohibiting federal reserve banks from paying interest on demand deposits of public funds.

Municipal leagues of eight states--Oklahoma, Texas, Kentucky, Indiana, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Colorado and North Carolina--are on record for increased shares of state-collected taxes, including gasoline tax funds and automobile license fees. Colorado cities would like to have the voters decide upon the allocation of state income tax revenues, most of which go into the state general fund.

Proposals to tax state and local securities are opposed generally. The New Jersey municipal league, in a typical resolution of opposition, says that federal taxation of local securities "would greatly increase the cost of municipal financing and so add to the burdens of local real estate taxation."

Cities in North Carolina and Iowa favor amending their state constitutions to provide for home rule, and the Iowa municipalities authorized their state league to prepare such an amendment. Michigan cities have formulated a plan to educate city officials, legislators and members of the judiciary on the importance of "maintaining self-determination."

Street and highway problems are considered acute by cities of several states. In Florida and Nebraska, municipalities advocate in their 1940 programs that the state highway department maintain city streets which serve as through-streets for highways. Washington cities oppose diversion of gas tax revenues for purposes other than construction and maintenance of highways and roads. Iowa cities urge repeal of the county tax on city property for the support of roads outside the city.

Programs concerning planning and housing have been adopted by municipalities of many states. Florida urges federal action to broaden the scope of local housing authorities. Nebraska municipalities request the appointment of committees on planning and zoning legislation, building code revision, and franchise and contracts. The Illinois league urges legislation which would permit cities to adopt building codes by reference instead of by publication as now required.

Included in other municipal programs for 1940: Nebraska--urges state health department to provide better requirements for sanitation of drinking glasses in taverns, restaurants and soda fountains; Minnesota--adopted a resolution urging Congress not to place arbitrary conditions and restrictions on WPA projects that would tend to increase "the present difficulties" in providing and financing work relief projects; Iowa--recommends an increase in the salaries of state legislators.

Accidents, Traffic Prevention

New Developments Reported In Traffic Safety Field

New developments in the field of traffic safety were reported on many fronts today by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. They range from traffic patrols by airplane in New Jersey to legislation against the drunken pedestrian in California.

Through the use of radio, the New Jersey state police department has coordinated air and ground observation units in an effort to reduce traffic congestion to a minimum on holiday weekends. Air reports are obtained from a National Guard airplane, piloted by a member of the state police, whose observer keeps in constant two-way communication with a ground station at Trenton. These reports, along with reports by the various state police stations, are transmitted by teletype to the control room of the Newark broadcasting station, which sends out frequent bulletins to warn the motoring public which highways are congested. With this information, motorists frequently are able to take side roads and avoid heavy traffic areas.

The legislation against the drunken pedestrian in California was an amendment to the state vehicle code. The amendment, which recently went into effect, makes it unlawful for any intoxicated person to walk upon the public highway. The Association said the California law is evidence of the growing tendency to place responsibility upon pedestrians as well as upon drivers.

The West Virginia state police department has distributed more than 10,000 stickers throughout the state as part of a campaign to reduce traffic fatalities, the Association said. The stickers say: "Slow Down--Save A Life For 1940" and are pasted on the rear window of automobiles. On the back side of the sticker is a warning that 381 drivers, passengers and pedestrians were killed on West Virginia highways last year.

West Virginia's state accident prevention bureau also has installed a new record system which will allow the staff to check, in a few minutes' time, the driving record for the past three years of any car operator in the state. The information is available to the state police radio division and criminal identification bureau.

In the scientific crime detection field, Connecticut within the last year became the 23rd state to use chemical tests to determine the degree of intoxication of drinking drivers. A private pathologist, cooperating with the state police department, analyzes body fluids to determine the degree of drunkenness. Massachusetts' state police department also has received cooperation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in making paint color tests to determine the identity of automobiles involved in hit-and-run accidents.

Long-Range Plan To Free Two Rivers, Wis., From Debt By 1947

A long-range plan designed to rid the city of debt so it may operate on a pay-as-you-go basis by 1947 is reported today by Two Rivers, Wis. The city--of 10,083 population--pioneered among cities of its population class in developing such a finance plan, which covers an 18-year period.

Designed to eliminate bonded indebtedness, the program does not depend upon curtailment of capital improvements or an increase in the tax rate, according to a report to the International City Managers' Association.

Started in 1929, the plan provides for annual payments of around \$65,500 for bonds and interest until 1947. Thereafter the money can be used each year for construction of physical improvements without increasing the tax rate.

In working out the program, city officials first listed the most important major improvements to be made. In no period of the city's history, the Association said, have so many public improvements been made as during the 10 years the plan has been in operation; yet the tax rate was reduced from \$30 to \$26.50. Since 1929, the city has built one bridge, two new schools, a sewage-disposal plant and a fire station, and has rebuilt harbor facilities, 71 blocks of concrete streets and 10 miles of sidewalks.

The burden on the resources of the city resulting from the depression has been offset largely by federal funds, according to the report. A large part of the sewer, paving and sidewalk work was done as work relief projects. The Public Works Administration aided financially in the repair of harbor facilities, and in the construction of the sewage-disposal plant and one of the schools.

In connection with the Two Rivers long-term plan, the Association pointed out that several cities are planning six-year programs in cooperation with the National Resources Planning Board in an effort to develop techniques and procedures and to show the practicability of such programs.

Preparation for the six-year program includes making an inventory of desired projects, determining probable future revenues, and the scheduling of desired projects in order of priority for the next six years. The programs are based on estimated revenue, and may be revised annually in the light of future changes in needs, desirability and funds.

Six-year plans of this type have been developed in Winchester, Mass., Nashville, Tenn., Dallas, Tex., Sacramento, Calif., Kalamazoo, Mich., Fargo, N.D., and Spokane, Wash.

Sludge Gas Runs English Cars

Trucks and automobiles of the Middlesex county government in London, England, will soon be operating on sludge gas --a by-product of the county sewage plant--to save gasoline.

Middlesex county, a part of metropolitan London, is building a \$35,000 plant to make use of this by-product in motor vehicles possible, information from the American Public Works Association showed today. Similar use of sludge gas has been reported as common in Germany. Complete utilization of the surplus gas, which is now burned as a waste product, will provide motor fuel equivalent to more than 300,000 gallons of gasoline a year, it is estimated.

This amount of fuel, at present prices, would cost \$95,000. The cost of compressing sludge gas equivalent to a gallon of gasoline is about six cents.

Middlesex county plans first to equip its drainage department vehicles with gas cylinders, then to extend their use to other county vehicles, and finally to offer the gas for sale elsewhere.

Anti-Skid Pavement Developed By St. Louis

A special paving surface designed by the city street department to check skidding is reported successful in St. Louis, according to information from the American Public Works Association.

Several years ago, the department of streets developed a hot re-surfacing mix with anti-skid characteristics. The mix consists of 95 per cent aggregate of crushed dolomite, a waste product from the Missouri lead mines, and 5 per cent asphalt and filler.

Streets treated with the anti-skid mix have withstood heavy traffic for six years with very little maintenance, according to the director of streets and sewers. They have proved superior to asphalt pavement in wet weather. Recent tests conducted by the department showed that cars operating at 30 miles an hour could stop within 57 feet on the anti-skid pavement, while the stopping distance on wet asphalt was 134 feet.

Immunity - Gov't. & Public

Federal Government To Cooperate With States In Exchange Of Public Salary Reports

The federal government will cooperate with the states in the reciprocal exchange of information on newly taxable salaries of public employees, the Federation of Tax Administrators noted today.

In this connection, the Bureau of the Budget has requested federal departments and agencies to make an extra copy of the tax return, which is prepared for the Bureau of Internal Revenue, reporting salaries of United States officials and employees. The extra copy will be sent to the governor or the appropriate agency of the state in which the employee resides.

Previously the Bureau of Internal Revenue issued an advisory ruling on the manner in which state and local governments might report their employees' salaries to the federal government for income tax purposes.

This reciprocal procedure will be a great aid to state tax officials, who otherwise would find it difficult to obtain piecemeal a full list of the taxable employees, the Federation said. Not only those federal employees in the field but those working in Washington and domiciled in the states, as well as army, navy, diplomatic and consular personnel, would have to be located and listed.

The Federation pointed out that, in view of the reciprocal nature of the arrangement, it is to the best interests of the state tax administrators in enforcing their income tax laws to urge their state departments, agencies and local governmental units to report to the federal government in some uniform manner the salaries paid their employees.

Although there are 32 states with a personal income tax, only 28 have statutes permitting the taxation of salaries of federal employees, the Federation said. Seventeen of these 28 states amended their statutes to permit such taxation after January 19, 1939, when President Roosevelt recommended the removal of the immunity of public salaries from income taxation.

Colleges, Universities Pay Same Water Rates As Other Customers

State universities and private colleges for the most part pay the same water rates as ordinary customers, according to a survey by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada of 25 cities in which such educational institutions are located.

An examination by the Association of practices in these cities shows that in all but four the state educational institutions paid the regular water rates. These cities are Gainesville, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., and Charlottesville and Richmond, Va.

Free water was one of the considerations granted when the University of Florida located at Gainesville in 1905, the city reported. Water is furnished the University of Virginia at Charlottesville on a special contract rate. State institutions at Richmond pay about one-third the regular rate, while Atlanta, Ga., furnishes one state institution with 200,000 cubic feet of water a month free.

Private colleges in all cities but two--Columbia, Mo., and Rochester, N.Y.--pay the regular water rate. In Columbia, according to the report, private schools pay only a little over production costs, while private educational institutions in Rochester pay about two-thirds of the regular rate.

The Association noted that the University of Missouri, located in Columbia, has its own water plant, and that the University of Toledo, a municipal institution at Toledo, O., pays no water rates.

Water plant operators and private accountants are in general agreement, the Association said, that all persons and governmental departments receiving water should pay for it at the regular rates. This would correctly disclose the earnings of the utility and also throw light on the real operating costs of governmental agencies.

States, Cities, Show Varying Laws On Public-Official Interest In Public Contracts

Laws or regulations designed to keep public officials from profiting by business dealings with the government should be carefully drawn in order to avoid keeping public-spirited and competent citizens out of office, the American Municipal Association noted today after making a survey of such laws.

The survey showed that officers and employees of state and local governments are generally prohibited by statute or city charter from having any personal interest in the purchasing or contracts of the public agency for which they work. The prohibition, a guard against fraud or the use of public office to promote private interests, extends to contracts for merchandise, supplies, building materials, labor, professional services, and supervisory and construction work.

Difficulties occur most often in the smaller units of government, the survey showed. In these places, John Citizen who sells hardware cannot afford to forego his sales to the city hall by becoming a councilman at little or no pay. If he does so, his city, in turn, may be inconvenienced in buying hardware because Councilman John happens to be the only hardware merchant in the vicinity.

To overcome such drawbacks, several states have considered the possibility of modifying their rules against public-official interest in government contracts. Modern courts tend to modify the rule prohibiting any contracts between governmental agencies and corporations whose officers serve the government, holding such contracts voidable but not void.

All but four of the states--Delaware, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont--have some kind of statutory prohibition of governmental contracts in which public employees are interested. Three other states--Massachusetts, Oregon and South Carolina--apply restrictions to municipal officers only. The coverage of the provisions ranges from councilmen to all public employees, including school employees. A number of the laws cover only special items such as printing contracts and textbooks, or apply only to employees of certain departments.

All but six states have some penal provision enforcing such restrictions on the business dealings of public officials. In addition to the four without any prohibition, New Mexico and Oregon provide no penalty. The statutes in general, however, do not provide a very definite or uniform pattern either as to governmental units or offices covered.

In Missouri, for example, if a city council is informed that a city officer or employee has an interest in a contract, it must investigate and determine the alleged interest. If it is proved, the offender is dismissed from office. The North Dakota law prohibits a city officer or a councilman from becoming party to a city contract, with a penalty provision of \$1,000, half of which goes to the informer and the rest into the city treasury.

Sixteen States Received Nearly \$10,000,000 In Taxes On Racing Last Year

Sixteen states which have legalized pari-mutuel betting received nearly \$10,000,000 last year in taxes on race track wagers, track and occupational license fees, and admission taxes, a survey by the Council of State Governments showed today. More than \$300,000,000 was wagered at tracks in the 16 states.

Twelve of the states--Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington and West Virginia--place a tax on the total amount of money wagered through pari-mutuel machines. The 12 states obtained more than \$8,500,000 in revenue from this tax source. The other four states--Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan and Nebraska--do not tax wagers, but obtain revenue from license fees and admission taxes.

Track license and occupational fees returned \$750,000 in revenue to 13 of the 16 states, while seven states obtained approximately \$700,000 from taxes on track admission tickets.

Disposition of racing revenues varies greatly from state to state, the Council said. California received \$3,036,344--4 per cent of \$75,908,600 wagered through the state's pari-mutuel machines--last year, and allocated the money for use by state, county and district agricultural fairs, and agricultural schools. Arkansas allocated 33 1/3 per cent of its total racing revenue--4 per cent of \$3,090,917 wagered--to the state old age pension fund, and the balance to the state charities fund. Rhode Island pro rated its racing revenue among cities and towns, while Florida divided the revenue among its 67 counties.

Twenty-two states now have legalized pari-mutuel betting at race tracks, but two states--New York and New Jersey--took this action only last year. There is little or no horse racing in four of the states--Maine, Nevada, New Mexico and North Carolina. Sponsors of New York's constitutional amendment legalizing pari-mutuel betting predicted the state would obtain around \$8,000,000 a year in taxes.

Under the pari-mutuel system, those who bet on horses to win, place or show in a race will share in the total amount--or "pool"--bet on all horses in the race. All bets are registered on a machine called a "totalizator," which automatically calculates the amounts wagered and the odds on the various horses.

Rural Speed Limits Nearly Doubled During Last 25 Years

The legal speeds at which motorists can travel on rural highways have been nearly doubled throughout the nation within the last 25 years, information from the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today.

This change has accompanied the reduction of driving hazards by better highway building and maintenance methods, speed control and traffic safety programs, and engineering and design improvements in automobiles.

Twenty-seven of the 34 states which now have statutory speed limits on rural highways have established their limits at 45 miles an hour or more, according to a study of speed laws obtained from the National Safety Council. In the other seven states, the limit is 40 miles an hour in three, 35 in two, and 30 and 25 in one each.

In 1918, however, speed limits set by the 40 states which had them were considerably lower. Twenty-five miles an hour was the limit established by 20 states, and 30 miles by 11 states. One state had a 15-mile limit, five states had 20-mile limits, two states had 35-mile limits and one state had a 40-mile limit. By 1928, state speed limits had been raised by an average of 10 miles an hour; by 1938, the average had been raised by another 10 miles an hour.

The Association pointed out that speed laws of more than half the states set "prima facie," rather than absolute, limits. In a state with a "prima facie" limit, it is unlawful to exceed the limit unless the motorist, if arrested, can prove that his speed in excess of the limit was "reasonable and prudent" for existing conditions.

There has been an increase of from three to 14 since 1927 in the number of states with no rural speed limits, the Association said. In general, the basic rule in these states is that "no person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing."

A new development in speed legislation is the use of laws providing for both prima facie and fixed, or absolute maximum, limits. Of the 15 states which enacted new speed laws in 1939, six adopted both prima facie and fixed types.

Summary of State Speed Limitations									
Legal Speed (per hour)	Number of States				Legal Speed (per hour)	Number of States			
	1918	1928	1937	1940		1918	1928	1937	1940
15 miles	1	0	0	0	40 miles	1	10	5	3
20 miles	5	1	0	0	45 miles	0	4	11	9
25 miles	20	2	1	1	50 miles	0	0	8	6
30 miles	11	6	1	1	55 miles	0	0	1	5
35 miles	2	22	4	2	60 miles	0	0	1	2
States with no speed limits:						8	3	16	14

Five states--Colorado, Minnesota, North Carolina, Nebraska and Maryland--not included in the summary for 1940 have conditional speed limits, the Association pointed out. In Colorado, the limit for the least mountainous sections of the state is 60 miles an hour; for the semi-mountainous, 40 miles an hour; for the mountainous, 20 miles an hour. The limits are enforced as absolute limits. Minnesota's statute provides for rural prima facie limits of 60 miles an hour in day time and 50 at night. In North Carolina, there is a 45-mile-an-hour prima facie, and a 60-mile-an-hour absolute, limit; a motorist may drive over 45 if existing conditions warrant, but must not exceed the 60-mile limit. * * *

Citizens Aid In Oral Examinations For Civil Service Agencies

The participation of private citizens as interviewers in civil service examinations--a plan followed by many civil service agencies--is carried a step farther by Connecticut in enlisting citizen aid on other parts of the test procedure, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

Among state and local government agencies which use citizens as well as officials on examining committees for interviewing government job applicants are Los Angeles and Alameda counties in California, Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, and the Pennsylvania State Department of Public Assistance.

Connecticut for the past year has enlisted citizens as unsalaried aids to help draw up statements of duties and qualifications for civil service positions, decide on weights of various parts of the examinations, and participate as interviewers.

Persons selected for the examining committees may or may not have practical experience in the technical procedures of personnel work. They include business men, educators, social workers, newspaper editors and professional men. A technical staff member from the personnel department is always present at meetings of the examining committees, to guide and instruct in techniques.

The civil service agencies which have used citizens as interviewers in oral examinations report that the practice not only results in dollars-and-cents savings but is an aid toward enlarging the public's knowledge of the workings of the merit system.

Los Angeles county's civil service commission for the past few years has called upon citizen committees from such professional organizations as the local bar and medical associations and social work groups, to conduct examinations of job applicants in their special fields. Over a 11-year period, Alameda county, Calif., had 2,000 citizens serve on oral examining boards.

The Pennsylvania Department of Public Assistance used 800 citizens as examiners when it interviewed applicants for 5,000 civil service positions that opened at one time in the department. Thirty-three thousand applicants were interviewed by the citizen-aids, who were given special preliminary training by the personnel department in uniform interviewing technique.

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the department of public assistance used 100 citizens as interviewers for 5,000 civil service positions that opened up. Thirty-three thousand applicants were interviewed by the personnel

Insurance, Fire

Sacramento Wins Higher Fire Insurance Rating After Seven-Year Campaign

How Sacramento, Calif., saved its property owners \$40,000 a year in fire insurance premiums by a steady push to improve fire defenses was described to the International City Managers' Association today in a report by Sacramento's City Manager James S. Dean.

The city, under a seven-year program begun in 1931, secured an improved classification last year from the National Board of Fire Underwriters, advancing from Class 4 to Class 3. The classification of a city, which determines its insurance rates, is made on the basis of the number of points it is deficient on water supply, fire department personnel and certain other factors. Class 1 cities pay the lowest insurance costs.

To gain the improved grading, Sacramento had to wipe out several hundred "points of deficiency." For example, the construction of two three-million gallon elevated water storage tanks, an increase in the size of water mains, and the installation of 332 new fire hydrants reduced the "deficiency points" on water supply from 307 to 208. Installation of a modern fire alarm system with a central alarm station and a connecting speaker to all fire houses cost \$250,000, but reduced deficiency points from 212 to 38.

Comparison of the survey of Sacramento made by the board of underwriters in 1928 with the check made in 1938 which resulted in the new classification showed deficiency charges as follows:

	<u>1928</u>	<u>1938</u>
Water supply.....	307	208
Fire department.....	259	340
Fire alarm system.....	212	38
Police.....	10	10
Building laws.....	91	90
Hazards.....	86	96
Structural conditions.....	379	339
Climatic conditions.....	171	153
	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,274</u>

According to City Manager Dean, many improvements were made in the fire department, such as tightening entrance requirements for firemen, giving them in-service training, and bettering prevention practices. Certain changes in the grading schedule for fire departments by the underwriters' board, however, resulted in deficiency points on this score, so that the grading under "fire department" went down rather than up.

The total number of deficiency points assessed under all the above items determines the city's grading or classification. If this number falls between 1 and 500, the city is in Class 1; between 501 and 1,000, in Class 2; between 1,000 and 1,500 in Class 3, and so on. Nearly 72 per cent of the cities over 30,000 are in Classes 3 and 4. No city is yet in Class 1.

The improved classification of Sacramento did not automatically result in reduced insurance rates. City officials first had to present a formal petition to the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific, which resulted finally in the reduction in the base or key rate from 28 cents to 26.6 cents.

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Comparison of the survey of Sacramento made by the board of underwriters in 1958 with one made in 1953 which resulted in the new classification showed deficiency charges as follows:

1958	1953
208	307
Water supply.....	107
Fire alarm system.....	91
Police.....	10
Rolling lawn.....	91
Hazards.....	86
.....
112	112
1,214	1,214

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Definition Of Relief Lack Uniformity

The lack of uniformity in eligibility requirements and administrative practices bearing on relief was shown today in answers by state attorneys-general to the question "what is relief?" asked them by the Attorneys-General Section of the Council of State Governments.

Although the definitions were unanimous in terming relief money or goods--and sometimes services--given to the needy, they differed widely in other aspects, the Council said. Only a few definitions took into consideration that a certain standard of living should be maintained through relief in the interest of general welfare. Only a few specified that assistance should be given only to those who were needy through factors beyond their control.

The general idea of what relief is, as embodied in formal definitions, affects relief policies such as eligibility requirements and the amount of assistance, the Council said.

The varying conceptions of "what is relief?" reflect in part the difference in nature and scope of relief legislation and administration in the several states, according to the Council.

The following definitions were selected by the Council for their inclusiveness and their differences:

"Temporary assistance extended to persons in all walks of life who, by reason of physical or mental infirmities, age or economic conditions, are unable to provide themselves with reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health."

"Something of value, constituted or made available by the government in acknowledgment of a sense of responsibility to a needy class or groups of people who, because of no apparent fault of their own, are in need of that which a citizen of that position or station in life, under normal conditions, should have in order to serve the general welfare."

"The grant x x x of money or the necessities of life to residents x x x who are able to demonstrate x x x their need therefor arising out of circumstances beyond their control."

"Assistance provided by the public authorities in the interest of the general welfare to alleviate hardship and destitution due to and caused by unemployment, as well as public aid extended to the indigent, needy aged, needy orphans and other needy physically handicapped persons."

"Any material aid or assistance granted by a public agency, or by a private agency sustained either wholly or in part by public funds to an individual for the purpose of providing the necessities of life to such individual and those dependent upon him during such time as such individual is prevented because of conditions outside of his control from providing such necessities of life by his own efforts."

"Aid or assistance, financial or otherwise, by public or private agencies, to members of the community who need and deserve it."

"Any assistance in the form of money, goods or service given to an indigent."

The lack of uniformity in eligibility requirements and administrative

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The varying conceptions of "what is relief?" reflect in part the differences according to the Council.

The following definitions were presented as the Council's summary of inclusiveness and their differences:

Relief assistance extended to persons in all walks of life who, by reason of physical or mental infirmity, are in economic distress and are unable to meet their needs with reasonable expenditure compatible with decency and health."

Acknowledgment of a sense of responsibility to a needy class or groups of people of that position or station in life, under normal conditions, should have in order to serve the general welfare."

"The grant x x x of money or the necessities of life to residents x x x who are able to demonstrate x x x their need therefor arising out of circumstances beyond their control."

Relief assistance provided to the needy, whether in the form of cash or in kind, to meet their needs and to enable them to maintain a standard of living compatible with decency and health."

The Council said no definition should be a rigid formula, but a guide to the purpose of providing the necessities of life to such individuals as are prevented because of conditions of their own making from providing such necessities of life by his own efforts."

All in all, the Council said, the definitions should be flexible enough to meet the needs of the community and to be adapted to the conditions of the time and place.

JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY

Steady Decline In State Censuses Shown By Survey

Although the constitutions of at least 22 states provide that state population censuses be made every 10 years--on the interdecennial years ending in "5"--no more than five states now make population counts, a survey by the Council of State Governments showed today.

The five states, according to the survey based in part on U.S. Bureau of Census reports, are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Florida, Kansas and South Dakota. The other 17 states either never carried out the constitutional provision, or have dropped the practice within recent years. A sixth state, Indiana, takes a census every six years of all male inhabitants over 21 years of age.

When most state constitutions were drawn up, the states were in the process of being settled, and wanted state censuses--to be made between the regular United States censuses--in order to reapportion their legislatures.

About half the states, however, provided in their constitutions for apportionment and reapportionment based on the regular United States census or, as in five states, on the number of votes cast for a certain office in the preceding election. As the states became settled and the populations more static, many states dropped state censuses altogether.

Among the states dropping their state censuses most recently are New Jersey, after 1915; New York, North Dakota, and Wyoming, after 1925; and Iowa, after 1935. New York amended its constitution in 1931 to delete the provision for an inter-decennial state census, and Iowa did so in 1936. The last state censuses for Minnesota and Montana were reported as around 1905.

The Council pointed out that despite the decline in the state census, two states--Massachusetts and South Dakota--are taking up the practice. The voters of Massachusetts, in 1930, approved a constitutional amendment providing "In the year 1935 and every 10th year thereafter a census of the inhabitants of each city and town shall be taken and a special enumeration shall be made of the legal voters therein." South Dakota's constitution was amended in 1936 to provide for a state census in 1945 and every 10 years thereafter.

Other states which have constitutional provisions for a state census are Alabama, Colorado, Michigan, Mississippi, Nevada, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Most of these states never took a state census, however, and have relied on the federal census for legislative reapportionment purposes.

With the exception of Arizona, Idaho, Maine, Georgia and Vermont, the remaining state constitutions say that legislative reapportionment may be made on the basis of federal censuses.

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Public welfare - indigent

Coordinate Programs Of Public Medical Care For Indigent, Report Suggests

If cities and other local governments are to provide adequate medical care for the indigent sick, it is essential that they integrate and coordinate the administration of all medical services now handled by different departments, a report by the Committee on Medical Care of the American Public Welfare Association said today.

The report, a statement of essentials and principles for organizing tax-supported medical care, was recently approved by the Association's board. It was made after a two-year study of practices and policies in more than 30 states.

As an outgrowth of their responsibility for relief, many welfare departments have accepted wide responsibility for administering medical care, the report pointed out, and are doing more than health departments in this field. Because of the division of authority, however, overlapping and duplication of effort have been common.

Although many jurisdictions find it impracticable at present to consolidate the administration of all tax-supported medical service in a single governmental department, they can integrate the care given by different departments through other measures, the report said. They may:

- 1 - Develop a cooperative relationship by which the welfare or other department providing medical care may obtain and pay for service or technical supervision through the department of health.
- 2 - Make official use of the state or local health officer as an advisor to the department which provides tax-supported medical care.
- 3 - Organize representatives of the governmental agencies concerned with medical care and welfare into an interdepartmental committee for joint planning of official programs.
- 4 - Use a medical officer on the welfare department staff as a liaison with other governmental departments and non-governmental agencies.

Elsewhere in the 11-point statement the Committee said that in planning for and administering medical service to dependents, the governmental authority should consult with physicians, dentists, nurses, medical social workers and pharmacists, and with representatives of both governmental and non-governmental health and welfare agencies.

Public medical care must be planned in relation to the general assistance program providing food, shelter, clothing and other essentials, the report also said.

The Committee on Medical Care of the American Public Welfare Association is continuing its study of tax-supported medical care and plans later to develop definite standards by which the adequacy of individual programs can be measured.

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State Highway Police Granted Full Police Powers By 30 States

State highway police agencies operate with full police powers, with a few exceptions, in at least 31 states, a survey by the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today. Seventeen states limit powers of their state police agencies to the enforcement of motor vehicle and highway regulations.

Although one state--Wisconsin--has no state police organization, it operates a division of state motor vehicle inspectors.

The Association cited minor limitations on the powers of those state police forces classified as having "full" powers. For example, Illinois, Missouri and Utah state police cannot serve civil or criminal processes. The Missouri agency also does not have the power of search and seizure.

Many state police agencies were listed as having full power in all cases except industrial disputes. Arkansas state police cannot act on private property in connection with a strike or lockout. Louisiana state police may not act except on an order from the governor, or upon a request by a mayor which is approved by the governor.

Although possessing full powers, the state agencies devote their time principally to enforcing motor vehicle and highway laws except when called upon for assistance by municipal authorities, with whom they cooperate fully. Maryland state police have "the same power with respect to criminal matters x x x as sheriffs, constables, etc.," but do not operate within city limits unless pursuing a criminal, or acting upon request of city officials or on the order of the governor.

Several other state police departments, including those of Virginia and Alabama, are simply "vested with the powers of a sheriff for the purpose of enforcing all criminal laws anywhere within the state." Other state police agencies listed by the Association as having "full" powers: Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, Indiana, Connecticut, Nevada and Oregon.

The other 16 state police agencies are limited to the enforcement of motor vehicle and highway regulations, with a few exceptions. California's highway patrol may make arrests if crimes are committed in their presence. Mississippi's highway safety patrol has broader powers than usual and may, in addition to its usual duties, enforce regulations of the Public Service, Motor Vehicle and Highway commissions when requests for such enforcement are approved by its executive officer.

Many states--including Florida, Georgia and Mississippi--expressly forbid their state police agencies to "usurp any of the duties and powers of sheriffs and municipal police" and forbid them to make arrests within city limits unless an offender is a fugitive and likely to escape because of the absence of municipal officers.

Other states with restricted police agencies are Arizona, Colorado, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Tennessee and Vermont.

1 Building Code

Cities Need Building Code Revision For Low-Cost Housing

If cities wish to facilitate low-cost housing construction, many of them need to revise building codes that have not been changed in twenty years, a report by George N. Thompson, chief of the building codes section, National Bureau of Standards, to the International City Managers' Association pointed out today.

About one-tenth of the 1,500 cities that have building regulations have not completely revised their codes for twenty years, and another one-tenth for fifteen years, according to surveys by the National Bureau of Standards.

"Current criticism of building codes centers on two points," the report said. "These are: requirements for excessive amounts of materials resulting in unnecessary costs, and failure to recognize desirable new materials and methods of construction. While some of the criticism directed at present codes results from misunderstanding the nature of building regulations and from a too-optimistic acceptance of all sorts of proposals, some of it is justified."

Building code requirements, particularly for small structures, for example, continue to depend on requirements stated in terms of dimensions that are traditional in the building industry rather than on rational engineering analysis.

Although building codes generally provide a procedure by which enforcement officials may permit the use of new materials, those officials often fail to do so simply because they do not know just how to test such materials, the report indicated. Eighty-three of 100 sample codes studied included provisions for the acceptance of new materials, usually by the municipal building official, by a board, or by the official and a board together.

To guide local officials in testing new materials, and thereby to make building economies possible, the American Standards Association, with the cooperation of the National Bureau of Standards, is developing standard techniques and procedures, the report pointed out. General acceptance by municipalities of the recommended methods, which have the approval of leading architects, engineers, and building officials, would simplify the process of revising local building regulations according to the report.

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National Bureau of Standards, is sponsoring a series of tests and experiments

Cities Define Refuse In Many Terms

While most cities in the United States collect refuse, they are anything but agreed on what to call it, the American Public Works Association reported today. Differences in language got in the way of the Association when it began gathering information on refuse collection practices in a nationwide survey.

In some parts of the country, for example, cities use the term "garbage," "rubbish" or "refuse" to mean all the materials accepted for collection. These might include table scraps, waste paper, tin cans, bottles and other miscellaneous household wastes. Other cities use the word "trash" to mean miscellaneous household debris other than garbage and ashes. Still other cities, when they talk about "trash," refer to yard debris, tree branches and similar materials.

To interpret the reports from various cities, the Association had to set up definitions of the various types of refuse, basing them partly on dictionary meanings, partly on the most widespread use of the terms.

"Waste," for example, was defined as covering all the "useless, unused, unwanted, or discarded materials resulting from natural community activities," including liquids, gases or solids. "Refuse"--all solid wastes--was defined as garbage, rubbish, ashes, street refuse, dead animals, industrial and market refuse and abandoned automobiles, each with its special definition.

The survey also disclosed that although some cities keep accurate records of the amount of various classes of refuse collected, others have little if any information on this function, and consequently can only guess at the equipment and personnel they need from year to year.

A section of the survey, which includes information on refuse collection practices from nearly 200 cities, was issued by the Association today.

Tax Collection - Delinquencies

Tax Arrears Board Adjusts Delinquencies With Profit To City

By adopting a policy of compromising with those property owners who owe more in delinquent taxes than their real estate is worth, the city of Schenectady, N.Y., expects to collect about three times as much as by its former policy of foreclosure and sale.

Schenectady has established a Tax Arrears Board which will administer the new policy, the International City Managers' Association reported today. The old system of foreclosing on tax liens and selling the property at auction usually brought the city about 25 per cent of the assessed valuation of the property. The new Board, which may settle at a compromise figure the tax bill on property that is delinquent in excess of its value, thus leaving it in the hands of its owners, expects to collect an average gross return of about 75 per cent of the assessed valuation.

The first petition to come before the Board requested an adjustment of taxes on a block of 81 lots assessed for \$48,600, on which more than \$130,000 was outstanding in taxes, special assessments and penalties. Interlocked with these lots was a group of 87 parcels also owned by the petitioners, on which delinquencies totaled \$15,000. Because the lots were intermingled, the petitioners were unable to develop economically the portion on which they could afford to pay back taxes.

The Board made an adjustment calling for the payment of \$36,000 to clear the lots included in the petition, with the provision that the other lots had to be cleared by full payment of all delinquent taxes. Since the lots concerned were in the best residential section, the city not only received 50 per cent more than the usual auction sale would have brought, but also made available for immediate residential building desirable property on which future taxes will probably be sizeable.

The Board compromises only when delinquent taxes amount to more than the property is worth, and the city gives up none of its power of foreclosure and sale by this policy.

* * *

Personnel Public - Examination - Election

Milwaukee Continues To Select Poll Officials By Civil Service

Election officials in Milwaukee were selected this year for the third time through an examination given by the city civil service commission, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

After the examination, eligible lists are set up by party affiliation and by ward residence. The election commission follows strictly the policy of appointing only those passing the examination, although without regard to standing on the list.

In 1937, when the examination was first given, 1,500 candidates participated, from whom several hundred poll workers were chosen.

* * *

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Delegates To National Conventions Not Bound To Support Primary Preferences

Although voters in 18 states may express their views in spring primaries on candidates seeking presidential nominations, only a few of the state delegations to the national conventions are bound to support primary preferences.

This was shown today in an analysis by the Council of State Governments of the states' election laws providing for presidential preference primaries. The analysis indicated the extent to which a preferential vote is binding upon delegates to the national conventions.

The laws of Nebraska, New Jersey and Wisconsin are silent on this point, while the Illinois statute says the state's preferential primary "shall be for the sole purpose of securing an expression of sentiment of the party voters."

Candidates for election as delegates from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia must take a more positive position, according to election laws of these states. An Ohio candidate must file a statement giving his first and second choices for the presidential nomination; he may also pledge to support the candidate selected in the primary. Pennsylvania delegates must "use all honorable means within their power" to secure the nomination of the preferred candidate.

Delegates from Arkansas and Maryland, however, are pledged to support preferred candidates. Arkansas delegates must vote as a unit unless the candidate "is so lacking in support that his nomination is impossible." If no preference is determined by the primary, the law says that delegates may vote as instructed "by the appropriate state political committee." The same conditions apply to Maryland, except delegates must vote for the candidate as long as there is a chance he may be nominated.

Although there is no presidential preference vote in California, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and South Dakota, the states hold direct elections for delegates who may or may not be pledged. The pledged candidates are grouped on the ballot in columns according to their preference in California and Massachusetts, and

(MORE)

may be voted for by groups. Unpledged delegates appear in separate columns and are not grouped. The New Hampshire law provides that the candidate may have placed after his name the words: "pledged to vote for the nomination of _____ for president."

New York delegates are unpledged in that they may not indicate their personal preference on the ballot. In the other four of the eighteen states--Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Michigan--presidential preference primaries are optional, and are held only upon the order of a party's state central committee.

Oregon's 1939 legislature repealed certain provisions for the state's presidential preference primary, but provided for nomination of presidential electors by the voters, and for the election of delegates to the national convention by district nominating committees. County central committees may, if they so desire, instruct district nominating committees in regard to delegates to the convention.

In a few states, candidates for presidential nomination must give their consent before their names may be placed on the preferential ballot. Provisions of the various state elections laws are as follows:

CALIFORNIA--Candidates for delegate must be endorsed by the candidate they pledge to support for the nomination, or endorsed by a state campaign committee that has not been repudiated by the candidate for nomination.

ILLINOIS--Nominating petitions, in general, must be subscribed and sworn to by candidates for the presidential nomination.

MASSACHUSETTS--The candidate for delegate must make no statement of preference unless the candidate for president files his written consent.

OHIO--The candidate for nomination must give his consent in writing before his name may be placed on the preferential primary ballot.

Preferential primary dates for 1940: New Hampshire, March 12; New York and Wisconsin, April 2; Illinois and Nebraska, April 9; Pennsylvania, April 23; Massachusetts April 30; Maryland, May 6; Alabama, California, Florida and South Dakota, May 7; Ohio and West Virginia, May 14; Oregon, May 17; New Jersey, May 21.

Many of the states have established specific dates for the filing of entries in presidential preference primaries. They are: Illinois and Ohio, 60 days before the primary date; Pennsylvania, 50 days; Nebraska and California, 40 days; Wisconsin, 32 days; West Virginia, 30 days; Maryland, 15 days; Massachusetts, on or before the seventh Tuesday preceding the primary; New York, not earlier than the sixth Tuesday, nor later than the fifth Tuesday preceding; New Hampshire and South Dakota, not more than 60 nor less than 30 days preceding the primary; New Jersey, April 1; Arkansas, not less than six months prior to the national convention. Filing dates in the other states may be determined by party authority.

Unemployment relief - finance

Few Cities Have Developed New Revenues To Meet Increased Relief Costs

Few cities have been able to develop new sources of revenue to match increases in local relief and emergency employment costs during the last 10 years, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada reported today. The report was based on a study of relief finance methods of more than 50 cities.

Only four of the cities--New York, San Francisco, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Erie, Pa.--used special sources of revenue to any extent to finance their relief programs, the study showed. Almost all of the other cities used regular tax receipts to pay for direct relief and their share of Work Projects Administration and Public Works Administration costs.

Different methods of financing the local share of relief costs were noted by the Association in its survey. Most cities used tax-supported bonds for their share of WPA projects, which included large public buildings and utility facilities. In most cities, also, a substantial part of general relief funds came from regular taxes.

Louisville, Ky., for example, financed direct relief and its share of WPA work with regular taxes, while utilizing tax-supported bond issues for large WPA projects. Baltimore annually has financed from 30 to 35 per cent of direct relief and all of its share of WPA costs from bond issues, but has paid its share of WPA expenses from regular taxes.

New York City became the great exception to the general practice when, some years ago, it adopted a policy of financing, as much as possible, all types of relief from current revenues. In 1939, the city paid 85 per cent of the cost of its three types of relief from current revenues, obtained mostly from municipal sales, cigarette, business, utility and conduit taxes. New York City used new tax sources or other special methods to pay 60 per cent of its relief bill in 1938, 97 per cent in 1937.

Grand Rapids financed 55 per cent of its relief load in 1939, 27 per cent in 1938 and 10 per cent in 1937 from special sources. Its share of WPA costs was obtained from water department funds, special assessments, an estate left the city, and salvage of street car property. It financed WPA for 1935, 1936 and 1937 with water works funds and, in 1939, by a water revenue bond issue. San Francisco obtained money from utility revenues, gasoline taxes and Golden Gate Exposition funds to finance 40 per cent of its relief burden last year.

The study showed, according to the Association, that the larger cities and counties of California have generally been paying the entire local share of relief costs from regular taxes. Minneapolis, on the other hand, has financed the entire cost of all types of relief from tax-supported bond issues. In general, however, most of the large cities have followed no continuing policy either as to issuing bonds to pay for various types of relief or financing them from regular taxes.

Because most of the cities have not levied new types of taxes to finance their shares of the various relief programs, they have had to obtain money from traditional sources of revenue, or have had to curtail services, the Association said.

To Meet Increased Relief Costs

Few cities have been able to develop new sources of revenue to match increases in local relief and emergency employment costs during the last 10 years, the report was based on a study of relief finance methods of more than 50 cities. The study was conducted by the National Association of Public Welfare Administrators, Inc., and the report was published in its journal, "Public Welfare," in the November-December issue.

Different methods of financing the local share of relief costs were noted in the Association in its survey. Most cities used tax-supported bonds for their share of WPA projects, which included large public buildings and utility facilities. In most cities, also, a substantial part of general relief funds came from regular taxes. Louisville, Ky., for example, financed almost all relief and its share of WPA work with regular taxes, while utilizing tax-supported bond issues for large WPA projects. All of its share of WPA costs from bond issues, but has paid its share of WPA projects from regular taxes.

New York City became the great exception to the general practice when, some years ago, it adopted a policy of financing, as much as possible, all types of relief from current revenues, obtained mostly from municipal sales, cigarettes, licenses, utility and conduit taxes. New York City used new tax sources or other methods to meet its share of the relief costs.

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The study showed, however, that the majority of cities have not been able to develop new sources of revenue to meet their increased relief costs. The report pointed out that the cities which have been able to do so have done so by a variety of methods, including the sale of bonds, the imposition of new taxes, and the use of special funds.

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Hospital Standards Sought For Almshouses/Used For Care Of Chronic Sick

If local governments continue to convert under-occupied almshouses into homes for care of the sick poor--as they are now doing in many cases--they should set up minimum standards for these institutions, a joint committee of the American Public Welfare Association and the American Hospital Association said today.

The committee pointed out in a report that the population of almshouses in many parts of the country is changing. Mental and tubercular cases are going into institutions established especially for their care, and social security measures are providing otherwise for the able-bodied aged and for dependent children. As a result, localities in at least 22 states have converted or are considering converting their now under-occupied almshouses into buildings for the care of the sick, to meet the urgent need for facilities for the chronically ill of all ages.

Few states have set up personnel, management, and equipment standards for this new type of institution, the committee found in its study. In some places, no distinction has been made between the use of an institution as a general hospital for acute illness, maternity care and major surgery, and as a home for care of the chronically ill. In other localities, the converted almshouses are used as general hospitals even when such facilities are already available.

Although no uniform, nationwide formula for the care of the people remaining in almshouses is possible, the committee recommended that local governments, before proceeding, consider carefully such questions as: whether the legal responsibility should be a local or a state matter, or how large an area would be economical to administer.

They should learn, also, what age groups are in their public homes at present, and the probable population trends, in order to plan programs, the committee said. They must know the types of care these specific persons need--whether active and continuous care by a physician is necessary, or whether custodial care will suffice. They should be certain that the almshouses they wish to convert for the care of the sick measure up to certain physical standards.

The committee outlined general minimum essentials for homes for custodial care of the chronically ill to include the following recommendations:

Buildings should be no higher than two stories. Rooms should accommodate from two to six persons only. Bed capacity should total at least 50, preferably 100, to insure economical operation. A number of rooms should be provided for husbands and wives. An infirmary should be provided for minor acute illness.

Personnel should include a trained superintendent with experience in institutional management. Daily visits by a physician should be provided, with resident physicians in institutions of 150 or more beds. Dental and ocular service should be available. There should be a social worker to take care of admissions and discharges or transfers of patients.

All entrants to the "home" should be given a thorough medical examination, to be repeated at least annually. The psychotic or seriously ill should be transferred to hospitals. Occupational therapy and recreation should be provided. The institution should not depend upon the services of inmates, but those who are able should be encouraged to do some manual work because of its therapeutic value.

Taxation - Administration

Taxation - Evasion

Interstate Exchange Of Tax Information Helps Plug Revenue Loopholes

Mutual exchange of tax information is gaining wide adoption by state tax agencies as a means of halting tax evasion, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

With an increase in the number of levies such as tobacco, sales and liquor taxes, tax administrators frequently find it necessary to check on interstate sales in order to plug loopholes and to enforce tax laws, the Federation said. Information given by the tax agencies, it was pointed out, is held confidential in every respect.

Thirteen of the northeastern and Atlantic seaboard states are cooperating in the mutual reporting of gasoline tax information. The practice was started a number of years ago by tax administrators in the North American Gasoline Tax Conference because of organized tax evasion and the "bootlegging" of tax-free gasoline. The reporting system works this way:

Dealer in State A reports to his state tax agency a shipment of gasoline to purchaser in State B. State A's tax agency sends information about the shipment to State B's tax department. State B reports to State A when the shipment arrives in the state and collects the gasoline levy from the recipient.

In this way, State A is sure that the shipment was actually made outside its borders, and State B is informed of a taxable shipment which might otherwise have gone tax-free.

At least 25 of the income-tax states allow exchange of information on this levy. Georgia and Iowa both report working agreements in effect, and the chief of information of the Iowa tax commission now proposes a cooperative plan with all other income-tax states. Under the plan, when an individual claims residence in another state, that state will be notified promptly and will check on him, so that he will pay an income tax to one of the two states with the levy.

The New England states are working out a systematic plan for exchanging reports on cigarette shipments, prescribed by the National Tobacco Tax Conference and followed to some extent by other tobacco-tax states.

Illinois, Iowa and Massachusetts are among the states which exchange tax information on alcoholic beverage shipments. In 21 states tax officials may cooperate in this way. Ten states authorize the exchange of sales tax information, but eight others specifically prohibit the practice. Nineteen states permit the exchange of information on inheritance taxes.

Among miscellaneous agreements in force is Florida's reciprocal arrangement with several other states for the exchange of information on intangible property.

Tax Information High from Various Sources

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Citizens Learn About Local Planning Through New "Primers"

The citizen who says he would be interested in helping plan his community if he knew anything about it is getting a chance to learn through non-technical "primers" on city planning now available, the American Society of Planning Officials said today.

One of the newest of the handbooks is "Your Home Town," issued by the New Hampshire Planning and Development Commission. This planning primer discusses opportunities for community development, the ways in which population changes and industrial trends affect a city, and other facts behind the city plan. After citizens have become acquainted with their home-town planning problems, they learn how an official planning agency can be set up.

In the same part of the country, the New England Regional Planning Commission has put out a handbook called "From the Ground Up," which tells why and how a city planning agency is useful to a community's development. The New England area now has about 250 town and city planning agencies.

The city planning agency of Peoria, Ill., is making its contact with citizens through the schools. A recent report--"City Planning for the Youth of Peoria"--stresses that planning education should begin with the young, and outlines for parents the city planning courses under way in the Peoria schools.

Schools in other cities, including New York City, Dallas, Tex., and Montclair, N. J., teach city planning in civics and citizenship classes.

Several cities which already have official planning commissions--Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Montclair, N. J.--have set up citizen advisory boards in addition. These boards give citizen members first-hand information about their city's planning problems, and at the same time the planning agency gains the benefit of advice from interested private citizens.

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The city planning agency of Boston, Mass., is working the country wide

through the state. A recent report "City Planning for the Year of

parents the city planning course may be in the line in schools.

Schools in other cities, including New York City, Baltimore, and

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Several cities which already have official planning commissions

Legislators Aided By Legislative Reference Bureaus In Bill Drafting

Legislators in all but four states can call upon legislative reference bureaus for legal and technical aid in drawing up bills for submission to their law-making bodies, the Council of State Governments reported today. In the four states, the assistance of the attorney-general's office usually is sought.

The legislative reference bureaus of 14 states offer the most complete aid to their legislators through separate divisions on legislative research, bill drafting and statutory revision. In 34 states, official duties of reference bureaus cover only research and bill drafting.

The Council pointed out that the actual bill drafting divisions usually center in the attorney-general's department, where legal technicalities are ironed out and where the constitutionality of proposals may be considered before the bill is placed before the legislatures.

In most cases, research divisions are called on to provide background material for legislators, for various executive departments, and, also, for outside organizations such as municipal leagues and civic groups. The research division keeps a constant watch on developments which may, eventually, require regulation through state laws. When the time comes, the division has all necessary information on hand and may more easily draft a bill covering the subject.

States with statutory revision sections in their legislative reference bureaus depend upon these offices to compile or codify all related laws under separate sections, and keep the sections up-to-date. This work includes placing amendments to laws in their proper position, and striking out sections repealed, superseded, or found unconstitutional. The Council said that in some states the attorney-general's opinions, as well as court decisions, are included in the code to aid in the proper construction of statutes.

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States Show 125 Laws On Public Low-Cost Housing -

A total of 125 laws on public low-cost housing have been passed by 38 states since New Jersey and Ohio pioneered with the first legislation in 1933, an analysis by the National Association of Housing Officials showed today. Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia add a dozen more laws to the list. Ten states as yet have no legislation on public housing on their books.

Some states have only one housing law, the survey showed. Other have seven or eight statutes apiece because state constitutional provisions necessitate separate acts classified by subject matter, or because amendments were passed as distinct new bills.

Included are enabling acts for housing authorities, provisions for demolition and slum clearance, provisions for tax exemption on the property and bonds of housing agencies, and laws prescribing tenant selection and setting requirements for nonprofit operation.

Although the growth of public housing has been "marked by a rapid upswing of popular acceptance," state acts have been passed in irregular sequence, the survey pointed out. Following Ohio and New Jersey, seven states and the District of Columbia enacted legislation to enable establishment of housing authorities in 1934. In 1935, nine states and the Territory of Hawaii were added to the list; in 1936, Louisiana was the sole state to pass housing legislation. Eleven more states passed housing laws in 1937; three more, and Puerto Rico, in 1938; and in 1939, Arizona, Idaho, Missouri, New Mexico and Washington enacted statutes.

Since the eight states meeting in regular session in 1940 already have public housing acts, it is unlikely that many new statutes will be enacted before 1941, the Association said.

With the exception of Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho and North Dakota, housing authorities in all of the states and territories having enabling legislation have loan contracts with the United States Housing Authority, or funds are earmarked for them. As of January 1, 1940, the total in loan contracts and earmarkings stood at \$666,398,000.

The analysis of laws showed the trend toward uniformity in various provisions. The local public housing agencies are created by state legislation; under such legislation it is the usual practice for a city council to set up a local authority. Although the local authorities at present are dependent for most of their loan capital and subsidies upon the federal government, they are responsible for planning, construction and operation of their housing developments. An exception to the dependence on federal financing was brought about by the New York state public housing law of 1939 which authorized direct participation of the state in the granting of loans and subsidies for low- and moderate-rent housing.

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New Committee To Study City Highway, Mass Transportation Plans

1 Roads - S
Transp. - S

A study of city highway and mass transportation programs, and the relation of each to the other, will be made within the next four months by a five-man committee appointed by the American Society of Planning Officials, it was announced today. In naming the committee, the Society said:

"The subjects of highway planning, mass transportation, traffic and property rehabilitation within large cities should be considered as parts of one problem, since each of these matters affects and influences each of the others."

Attempts in the past to treat these matters individually or in piecemeal fashion have resulted usually in failure, according to the Society.

Named to the committee were I. S. Shattuck, planning consultant, Oakland, Calif.; H. F. Aumack, engineer, city plan commission, Spokane, Wash.; Burton W. Marsh, director, safety and traffic engineering department, American Automobile Association, Washington, D.C.; D. Grant Mickle, Michigan State Police traffic and safety engineer; and L. Segoe, planning consultant, Cincinnati, O.

One problem to be studied is that of developing adequate parking facilities for the thousands of automobiles which would enter a large city's business district over a modern system of superhighways, if such a system were constructed. Plans for handling such a large flow of traffic during the heavy morning and evening periods should be worked out also, the Society said.

Another problem is the relationship of a superhighway system to blighted residential and property areas through which it would pass. There might be a need, the Society said, for a program treating both the highway system and the redevelopment program as a part of a broad plan for community development.

The need for a system of superhighways will be studied in relation to such mass transportation facilities as street car, bus and electric systems. Where excellent transportation facilities exist, where they are rapid, convenient and inexpensive, the people may be inclined to use these facilities and leave their automobiles at home.

The committee will submit a report at the national conference on planning to be held in San Francisco July 8 to 11.

Traffic - RegulationCities Find Planned Routes A Safeguard For Emergency Vehicles

Planned routing for fire engines, ambulances and other emergency vehicles is a new system used by cities to reduce chances for traffic accidents, information from the American Municipal Association showed today.

At least eight large cities--Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Portland, Ore., San Francisco, Louisville, Boston, Washington, D.C., and Vancouver, B.C.--have laid out routes so that emergency vehicles may avoid congested or hazardous streets as much as possible, thus making faster services possible. The cities consider the routing plan valuable also for avoiding collisions between emergency vehicles answering the same call.

In addition to planned routing, cities are using "blocked traffic" signals, special training of drivers, and local regulatory ordinances to minimize causes for accident, according to a sample survey of 18 cities of the country by the League of Oregon Cities. The regulations occasionally extend to the coroner's vehicles, the mayor's car and other city automobiles.

"Blocked red" traffic signals, which stop all traffic on streets taken by the emergency vehicle, are used in Cincinnati, Kansas City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.

Drivers are usually trained in these systems by the individual municipal departments, the survey showed, although Louisville centralizes training for operators of all of the city's emergency vehicles in one course. Fire departments of Los Angeles, Portland, Ore., and Washington, D.C., require special ability tests of their drivers.

While most of the 18 cities grant emergency vehicles preferential rights of way, Boston and Washington, D.C., place definite restrictions upon them. The District government sets a top speed of 30 miles an hour for vehicles of the police department, ambulances, and the rescue car of the fire department. Boston's emergency vehicles are granted exemption only from parking and standing provisions. However, fire vehicles, police patrol wagons, and ambulances are granted right-of-way through state law.

Broad exemptions from speed and parking regulations are granted in 12 of the cities, including Baltimore, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, Ore., Seattle, San Francisco and Vancouver. Chicago, Louisville, Minneapolis and Winnipeg require emergency vehicles to slow down at stop signs and proceed with caution.

Most of the cities require sirens or other distinguishing signals on emergency vehicles. Cincinnati puts a uniform signal device on all these vehicles, to insure recognition. In most cities, motorists must yield the right-of-way on hearing warning signals.

Reports from some cities, the League survey said, indicate a growing opinion that ambulances should not be granted special speed privileges. Many traffic codes, however, include general clauses stating that exemptions do not protect emergency vehicle drivers from the consequences of reckless driving.

Training - Police

Motion

Use Of Motion Pictures In Law Enforcement Field Increases

An increase in the use of motion pictures in the law enforcement field--for educating the public, for instructing police officers, and for gathering evidence--was noted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police today in endorsing the film, "Know Your Money," based on the detection of counterfeit currency.

The motion picture was prepared by the United States Secret Service, a division of the Treasury Department. The film, to be exhibited to police departments of the larger cities as well as to the public, is designed to suppress counterfeiting through "education rather than persecution," the Association said.

"Know Your Money" is a motion picture "short" of the same educational qualities as "Drunk Driving," released to theaters recently. The Association endorsed this film also.

The motion picture has been put to a greater use as a means of training, however. It is being used by police and fire departments to instruct recruits, and by public health services of many cities in connection with various public health campaigns. An additional use of movies has been made by the Pittsburgh Community Fund for training volunteer fund solicitors.

Movies showing training procedures of the New York City, Milwaukee and Kansas City, Mo., police departments have been made within the last year, and are used in the training not only of recruits but of regular department members. The Milwaukee police department has made short movies of traffic officers in action, using the films later to call attention to the officers' good and bad points.

There has also been an increase in the use of motion pictures in the crime detection field, the Association said. California state and municipal police, for example, are using motion pictures in their campaigns against drunken driving and traffic offenders. Motorists suspected of driving while drunk are filmed by Fresno and Sacramento police at the station, and reckless drivers are photographed in action by cameras mounted on the windshields of California highway patrol cars.

with the United States for maintaining peace and order, and the...
of the International Association of the United States of America...
"New York Times," based on the deletion of a sentence...

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Public Administration

Cities Use Bulletins To Explain Tax Bills And Services

The taxpayers of more than a dozen towns in the United States are finding out the hows and whys of their tax bills by reading special leaflets or bulletins published recently by their municipal officials.

The bulletins, according to the International City Managers' Association, range from a single sheet of paper showing a simple functional breakdown of the tax-dollar in Schenectady, N.Y., to a six-page folder discussing the financial condition of Kenosha, Wis., and an eight-page folder in Louisville, Ky.

Several cities and Los Angeles county make use of "pie" charts to show their citizens the distribution of the tax dollar; in Royal Oak, Mich., a dollar bill is reproduced in segments in the leaflet to show this information. The Royal Oak leaflet also shows the detailed use of tax money for nine typical assessments.

The bulletins issued by the cities of Louisville, Knoxville, Tenn., and Morgantown, W.Va., compare the weekly cost to each taxpayer of the various city services with the cost of common household supplies such as flower, thread, and stamps. The Louisville folder also includes a small city map on which the location of newly completed public works is given.

Erie, Pa., has explained in a leaflet how prompt payment of taxes and reduction of delinquency by taxpayers as a whole help reduce the general city budget. Several cities pointed out, the Association said, that the total tax bill is for several local governmental units, and that the city itself receives only a part of the payment. The Winnetka, Ill., folder shows how the first of the 20-year payments on a new grade-crossing elimination program affected the tax rates.

Several leaflets discuss new services available to the citizens. Henrico county, Va., mentions a new planning service available to subdividers; Two Rivers, Wis., lists the major new or replacement items in the budget; Morgantown mentions the improvement of the airport. The Kenosha folder explains why it was economical to undertake construction of a sewage disposal plant in 1939, and why a grade-crossing elimination program had been desirable in 1939.

The six-page, 3 by 5-inch folder of Piqua, O., is somewhat different. It discusses the history of the city, its industrial advantages, its economic stability and its low utility rates.

Plymouth, Mich., sent its tax bills with a letter outlining briefly what the city proposed to do with the tax money, and urging a more extensive use of public services.

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Traffic Jams Shown to Take 50 Per Cent More Gasoline

Traffic congestion increases gasoline consumption on short city trips 50 per cent, according to a recent experiment in Boston, information from the American Public Works Association showed today.

A test automobile which took seven minutes to travel one mile under ordinary traffic conditions was shown to spend two and one-half minutes of this time waiting for traffic lights, a minute and a half in first and second gear, and three minutes in high gear. Four to five complete stops of one-half minute each were necessary every mile.

On weekdays the average gasoline consumption of the test car over the chosen route was 12.1 miles to the gallon. On Sunday mornings, with traffic interference largely removed, the car averaged 18.2 miles to the gallon.

The tester, Prof. A. J. Bone, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, estimated that if all cars behave similarly to the test car, traffic delays are costing motorists \$18,000 a mile on congested streets each year. His estimate was based on a gasoline cost of 16 cents a gallon, for a daily average of 15,000 vehicles on the streets.

Divided Highways Reduce Traffic Fatalities 83 Per Cent

To split four-lane highways down the center by a median strip may reduce fatal traffic accidents more than 80 per cent, according to the result of a New Jersey experiment noted by the American Public Works Association today.

An undivided four-lane highway was separated into two double lanes by jacking the slabs apart at the center and inserting a median strip with curbing. The cost of dividing the highway--a 10-mile stretch--was approximately \$50,000 a mile.

In addition to an 83.3 per cent reduction in fatal accidents, traffic accidents of all kinds dropped 40.4 per cent, while state-wide data for the same period showed an increase of 6.7 per cent. Property damage accidents on the newly divided road were reduced 17.6 per cent.

The divided road brought little reduction in accidents at intersections, however, it was pointed out.

JOINT REFERENCE

LIBRARY

FEB 23 1940

Credit Unions Help City Employees Solve Personal Financial Problems

Municipal employees are making an increasing use of credit unions to save money and to help solve their personal financial problems, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada reported today. At present, approximately 500 of the 8,000 or more credit unions in the United States are operated by municipal employee groups such as firemen, policemen and teachers. W

Credit unions may be organized under federal or state laws. They are cooperative associations, formed usually to help members save money conveniently and in small sums. The money thus saved is loaned to members at interest rates which may not exceed 1 per cent a month of the amount of the loan remaining after each payment is made.

At present, 42 states have enacted credit union laws, Massachusetts passing the first one in 1909. Although the credit union movement was slow in getting under way until 1929, it has gained momentum during the last few years. The federal credit union act was passed by Congress in 1934, and since then more than 3,000 federally-chartered credit unions have been organized.

New York City employees were among the first to form a municipal credit union in the United States, the Association said. Their union was set up during the World War period, according to New York City officials, because "so many city employees had fallen into the hands of loan sharks that the matter came to the mayor's attention." He appointed an assistant to work out a plan to help the employees, and it was decided to organize a credit union. A success from the start, the New York City Municipal Credit Union now is the largest of any kind in the country, with 24,500 members and assets of more than \$4,000,000. Officials of the credit union say that its savings are used in the financial rehabilitation of members, it furnishes a place for employees to borrow money at reasonable terms, and it offers a means of saving money through small deposits which the employee otherwise probably would never save.

Credit unions formed by school teachers outnumber other city employee unions, according to information from the Association, and there are about 170 organized under state laws alone. One of the largest is the Detroit Teachers Credit Union, which has more than 5,000 members and assets totaling more than \$2,000,000. City firemen make up the next largest single group, with about 75 credit unions operating under state laws. One of the largest is the Pittsburgh Police Credit Union, with 1,090 members and assets of \$170,143. The Los Angeles Police Credit Union, organized under federal law, is another large credit union--2,532 members with assets of \$357,666.

Large cities with teacher credit unions include Los Angeles, Chicago, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Mo., Boston, Minneapolis, Poughkeepsie, Fort Worth, and Salt Lake City. Firemen's credit unions: Birmingham, Atlanta, Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Omaha, Cleveland, and Nashville. Policemen's credit unions: Birmingham, Washington, D.C., Indianapolis, Des Moines, New Orleans, Cleveland, Winston-Salem, Nashville, and Madison, Wis.

Other types of employee credit unions include: Los Angeles county surveyors; Miami, Fla., public service employees; New Orleans sewerage and water board employees; St. Paul, Minn., sanitary district employees; and various credit unions covering all municipal employees.

Taxation Statistics

State Tax Collections Increase \$775,000,000 In Two-Year Period

State tax collections of 1939 showed an increase of \$774,806,000 over those of 1937, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today. Aside from the payroll tax, which brought \$450,000,000 more revenue, the rise in receipts was due mainly to increased revenue from prevailing taxes rather than to the adoption of new taxes, the Federation said. Comparisons by the Federation were based on Bureau of Census figures.

For all except one levy--the property-tax--the main types of taxes assessed by the states brought larger revenues last year than in 1937. The decline in property tax collections continued the trend toward less state dependence on this source which has prevailed since 1915.

Taxes on gasoline and other motor fuels brought the states the largest amount of revenue in 1939, totaling \$800,881,000. Next in line of the big contributors was the payroll tax, which amounted to \$798,993,000 in the 48 states. The proportion of total tax collections in 1939 represented by these two taxes was nearly the same--20.9 per cent from motor fuels, and 20.8 per cent from payroll levies. In 1937, motor fuel taxes had brought in 20 per cent and the payroll tax, at the time effective in only 36 states, 9.2 per cent of total collections.

Two other taxes--income and liquor--made appreciably larger contributions to state revenues in 1939 than in 1937. Liquor tax and license receipts went up from \$174,208,000 in 1937 to \$218,546,000 in 1939. Income tax receipts of the states increased from \$239,655,000 to \$329,354,000, including the addition resulting from changing certain receipts formerly classified as "special property taxes" to the "income" classification.

Total tax collections of the states in 1939 amounted to \$3,831,764,000, as against \$3,056,958,000 in 1937. Amounts and proportions contributed by the various types of taxes in 1939 were as follows (amounts listed in thousands of dollars):

Motor Fuels.....	\$ 800,881	20.9
Payroll.....	798,993	20.8
General Sales.....	442,336	11.5
Motor Vehicle License....	362,289	9.5
Income.....	329,354	8.6
Property.....	241,218	6.3
Liquor.....	218,546	5.7
Gross Receipts on		
Utilities, etc.....	206,821	5.4
License Taxes.....	151,728	4.0
Death and Gift.....	133,026	3.5
Tobacco.....	59,537	1.6
Severance.....	44,423	1.1
Other.....	42,612	1.1
	<u>\$3,831,764</u>	<u>100.0</u>

* * *

Floods Or Flood-Control Programs Cause Four Cities To Seek New Sites

When the citizens of Hill, N.H.--a town of 400 population--voted recently to move their community to a new location, they followed the example set by citizens of three other communities who, within recent years, decided to relocate their towns to escape floods or aid in flood control.

Two of the towns--Shawneetown, Ill., and Leavenworth, Ind.--already have moved to higher ground from the sites which, in 1937, were covered by Ohio river flood waters that almost completely destroyed many of their buildings. Greenville, Mo., is the other town; its present site has been designated as part of a St. Francis river flood-control reservoir system.

The citizens of Hill voted at a town meeting to relocate, and to establish a model village, after the federal government made known its plans for building a flood-control and water conservation dam which will flood the present site.

With the assistance of the New Hampshire state planning and development commission, plans for a model town were drawn up and submitted to Hill's citizens. The plans were studied during several town meetings, and accepted when the residents voted to move to the new site.

State and federal agencies assisted in planning the new Shawneetown, about three miles from the old location at the confluence of the Wabash and Ohio rivers along the southeastern border of Illinois. The new town is oval in design, and no part is more than three blocks from the center. The main street is 100 feet wide, and a 30-foot parkway separates the street from the sidewalks. At one end of this street is the Gallatin county courthouse; at the other end, a community building. Parking areas are behind, instead of in front of, the stores. Houses that were not destroyed by the flood were moved to the new site, and the rest salvaged. Public buildings, for the most part, were built anew. Landowners received deeds to plots at the new town site, which was purchased by the state with \$150,000 supplied by the state legislature. The old site will become a state park.

Leavenworth's 450 residents moved to a bluff high above the old site, which had been flooded 11 times since the town was founded. State and federal agencies cooperated in drawing up the town plan and relocating state highways. Work Projects Administration officials estimated the cost of streets, sidewalks, water and sewer systems, a town hall, and other construction at \$125,000.

Many agencies are cooperating in moving Greenville from its present site to a new one about a mile up the highway. The Missouri state planning board is drawing up the new town plan, with technical assistance provided by consultants supplied by the National Resources Planning Board. Topographic maps of the new site were made by the United States army engineers. The town must be moved by 1941, when the new dam, to hold back waters of the St. Francis river from the Missouri river, is scheduled for completion.

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Tax rolls

Assessment methods

18 States List Real Property By Geographical Placement

Even so routine a matter as record keeping has an effect on the quality of property tax assessments, the National Association of Assessing Officers pointed out today in connection with a survey of methods of listing real property on assessment rolls.

The survey, covering all 48 states, showed that in half of them assessors list city lots and rural acreage for the most part alphabetically by names of owners. In 18 states geographical listing, in order of lot and block numbers, house numbers, section and township numbers, or tax map parcel numbers, is most common. In six states, a mixture of the two methods is used. During the past few years, Michigan has changed from alphabetical listing to geographical, and the trend is in this direction also in Oregon and Iowa, the survey showed.

Where geographical listing is used, adjacent parcels are listed on adjacent lines of the assessment roll. This is especially common in cities, since a regular system of lot and block numbers and street numbers usually already exists for purposes other than taxation. It is also prevalent in rural areas in those states originally divided into townships and sections by the United States Government Survey. Alphabetical listing has been fostered in a number of the remaining states by laws requiring that the roll be divided into two parts, one for resident owners, the other for nonresident owners, or one for white owners, another for Negro owners.

The principal advantages of geographical listing, as cited by the Association, are that parcels of land are not so easily "lost" when the records of all lots within each block and of all acres within each section are listed in order, and that uniform valuation can be made more certain than when adjacent parcels are listed far apart on the assessment roll. These advantages are especially marked when assessors lack tax and land value maps, it was pointed out.

Another advantage of geographical listing is that parcels of unknown ownership can more readily be listed. The geographical type of record is likely, also, to fit in more readily with the assessor's field work and with other records in the tax office, according to the Association.

A cross-reference index, showing the names and addresses of each recorded owner of real property, will serve the purposes of alphabetical filing when a geographical listing is followed, the Association pointed out.

States which now follow geographical listing predominantly include: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin.

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Great Britain

Housing Management - A Different Story In England, Report Shows

The contrast between the English and the American public housing manager, and the type of training given for his position, is shown by a report on English housing management issued by the National Association of Housing Officials today.

Although English cities have been building housing projects for twenty years, there is no one in the English scheme corresponding to the American resident project manager with his generally broad range of duties, the report said.

The manager of a housing development in this country resides in the project, and is usually wholly responsible to the director of a housing authority for tenant relations, operation and maintenance, and selection of staff for the one project. Under the typical English system, these various tasks are performed by different employees; especially trained, who work in a single central "management" office administering all the housing projects under one local government. The "management" is usually supervised by some municipal committee or department head not necessarily specializing in housing.

English housing managers usually start their housing education young. The Institute for Housing in Birmingham, for example, has a three-year training course which enrolls students at sixteen. They receive practical training in the management of both old and new property, in rent collection and general accounting, repairs and maintenance, building construction, public relations, and other subjects. They are graduated with a certificate or a degree of Bachelor of Science in Estate Management.

A number of local housing authorities in England enroll young men and women from 16 to 19 years old for training, selecting them by examination. They are called junior rent collectors. Seven years' training in typing and shorthand, office work, counter duty, interviewing, renting and collecting, renders them eligible for rent collector posts. Several English universities, also, offer orientation courses in public housing, and the Universities of London and Manchester hold vocational training institutes leading to housing management degrees.

Besides the typical managers of English housing developments there are professional housing managers who follow the system named for Octavia Hill, a pioneer social worker of the middle nineteenth century. Under this system, social service is combined with rent collection and property management. Managers are trained by practical work in housing projects, and take technical examinations for certificates. Training requires from 18 months to four years, and a university degree or its equivalent is desirable for entrance to the course.

In the United States, jobs in housing management are still too few to justify intensive vocational training, the report said. In-service training and housing management institutes sponsored by governmental or professional agencies are relied upon to prepare housing project staff members for manager positions as they open. However, more than 200 colleges and universities offer courses on housing or include it in their sociology, city planning, economics and social work courses.

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Accidents, Traffic - Prevention

Truck Fleet Owners Help Reduce Accidents In Kansas City

A new checking system worked out through cooperation of trucking fleet owners and the Kansas City, Mo., police department during the last few months has materially reduced the number of accidents involving trucks and the number of arrests of truck drivers, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

When called to the scene of an accident involving a truck, members of the police accident investigation squad question the driver regarding his driving experience, employment and length of service. The information, noted on the regulation accident report, is copied the following day on an index card. A copy of this card is sent to the fleet owner for his file. The same procedure is followed if the driver is arrested for a traffic law violation.

With this information, the fleet owner can remind his employes that a check of their driving habits is being kept, and that continued employment may be based on their respect of the city's traffic laws.

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A State Reports To Its People

Reporting

A new kind of state report was delivered recently to the people of Kentucky in the form of a non-technical 64-page booklet called "Kentucky Government, 1935-1939." The report, according to the Council of State Governments, summarizes the reorganization of the state government after 1936, and discusses changes that have taken place in the various state departments during the last four years. Pictures and graphs help tell the story.

Although many cities issue annual reports to their taxpayers, Kentucky is one of the few states that have published a resume for popular consumption, covering all state governmental activities, according to the Council.

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Traffic Fatality Rates Drop 28 Per Cent In 22 Cities With Accident Bureaus

Twenty-two cities operating accident investigation bureaus in their police departments showed traffic fatality rates 28 per cent lower last year than the rates for the three previous years, the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today. The reduction for all other cities in the country, comparing the same periods, was 16 per cent.

Compared with fatality rates for the year preceding installation of special accident investigation procedures by the Safety Division, these cities showed more than a 40 per cent reduction last year. Before investigation bureaus were installed, their average death rate from traffic accidents was 24.4 per 100,000 population. For the year 1939 the rate was 13.7 deaths per 100,000.

The 22 cities made a reduction in fatality rates of 8 per cent in 1939 over 1938, while the average reduction in this period for all other American cities was only .3 per cent.

Atlanta led the group with a reduction of 51 per cent, as compared with its 1938 record. Other cities with notable reductions include: Memphis, 34 per cent; Indianapolis, 31 per cent; Cincinnati, 29 per cent; Cleveland, 12 per cent; and Oakland, 4 per cent.

Four of these cities--Memphis, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Oakland--had their traffic enforcement activity reorganized in 1939, along with Chattanooga, Knoxville, San Francisco and Detroit.

Other cities in the group are: Bridgeport, Greenwich, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury, Conn.; Syracuse, N.Y.; Columbus and Dayton, O.; Louisville, Ky.; South Bend, Ind.; Saginaw, Mich.; and Evanston, Ill. Miami, Fla., for which 1939 records are not yet available, also has an accident investigation bureau.

A similar reduction in traffic fatalities occurred in Indiana, where the state police department also was reorganized during 1939 and an accident investigation system installed. From an average death rate of 37.5 per 100,000 population for 1936-38, the rate for 1939 went down to 29.6 per cent.

The table below indicates the reductions achieved:

	Average Rate 1936-38	Rate 1938	Rate 1939	Percentage De- crease from 1938 Rate	Percentage De- crease from 3- Yr. Av. Rate
All U.S. Cities	17.0	14.7	14.2	0.3%	16.0%
22 Cities with Acc. Prev. Bureaus	19.4	14.9	13.7	8.0%	28.0%
8 Cities Installing Bureaus Last Year	15.3	17.8	15.8	11.2%	3.3%
State of Indiana	37.5	32.4	29.6	8.0%	21.0%

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Public relations

Cost, Cost of (mun.)

New York City Employees Win \$1,200 In Prizes For Economy Suggestions

Suggestions on how to eliminate unnecessary city expenditures won \$1,200 in prize money for 30 New York City employees in a recent contest, sponsored by the Civil Service Good Government Committee, which brought in more than 600 ideas from 252 city workers on how to effect municipal economy.

The prize-winning ideas ranged from a suggestion--which won the \$250 first prize--that a city-wide cost accounting system be established, to a proposal--which won a sixth prize of \$5--that "pull" cords be attached to all lights so that only those actually needed would be used.

In sponsoring the competition, civil service officials sought ideas from city employees on means of reducing expenses of municipal government. City officials will study the suggestions thoroughly in an effort to determine their adaptability to practical use, according to information from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada.

The prize-winning suggestion for the establishment of a cost accounting system was made by a junior draftsman in the Board of Estimate. He wrote that New York City, with a budget of \$587,000,000, has no detailed unit cost and expense accounting method. "Cost accounting," he said, "is proposed so that the personnel may be guided in giving maximum service, that better administrative control may be secured, standard cost records set up, and a more thorough understanding of illusive items gained."

A suggestion that a city-wide scrap reclamation yard be set up won a \$150 second prize for a park department laborer. He said that all old brass, copper, and iron, as well as obsolete equipment and material, could be sold to the highest bidder. In pointing out that the Department of Purchase, in 1938, sold \$130,000 in salvaged material, the award board expressed belief that a centralized reclamation department could improve the mark. The other \$150 second prize went to a retired physician of the Department of Hospitals for his suggestion that \$300,000 a year could be saved in salaries paid by the city to 183 custodians of 80 private hospitals and institutions. He said the custodians were not under civil service, and that the positions had been "parceled out" among district political leaders.

Suggestions which won the three third prizes of \$100 each were: that a city repair unit to care for the 15,000 city-owned typewriters could save thousands of dollars yearly; that city electrical inspection, now done by three separate departments, should be consolidated; and that bonuses granted certain high school teachers for the hire of assistants should be abolished.

Other prize winning ideas included: the establishment of a central garage to supply metered taxi service to all departments, thus eliminating the assignment of cars to individuals or departments for passenger service; the creation of a property accountability control system, by which officials can tell at all times the use, condition and final disposition of all city equipment and materials; and the release of policemen and firemen from messenger assignments by the substitution of lower-paid civilian employees.

S-Taxation
Kentucky's Chain Store Tax Brings Total Of States With Levy To 21

Kentucky's new chain store tax, which goes into effect 90 days after the 1940 legislature adjourns, brings to a total of 21 the number of states with this levy, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

The new Kentucky tax act replaces a statute held unconstitutional early last year by the state supreme court. The act provides for payment of fees ranging from \$25 for each store in a chain of five units or fewer, to a maximum of \$200 per store in chains of more than 250 units.

The chain store tax had its first acceptance in South Carolina, in 1930, according to the Federation. The majority of the laws were enacted in the period 1933-35. Except for Tennessee, which taxes floor space, the states levy fees which are graduated according to the number of stores. In Michigan, for example, a chain which has 26 stores in the state pays \$250 in taxes for each store and a correspondingly less amount if there are fewer stores. In Louisiana, a chain owning more than 500 stores which may be located either inside or outside the state boundaries, pays \$550 for every store within the state. The new Kentucky tax is of the latter type.

States which have repealed or invalidated chain store tax laws include Arizona, California, Maine, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Vermont. Minnesota's chain store tax law is in the courts at present but the tax is still operating.

Chain store taxes are not important contributors of revenue, the Federation said. State collections from this source in 1939 totaled \$6,165,000, or about .2 per cent of total tax revenues. Among the large collectors were Texas, \$785,000; Michigan, \$597,000, and Indiana, \$544,000.

States with the chain store tax include: Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Kentucky's new chain store law, which was passed 30 days after the

legislature adjourns, brings to a total of 21 the number of states which have

the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

The new Kentucky law not only contains a statute with constitutional guaranty but

also by the state supreme court. The law provides for payment of fines ranging from

\$5 for each store in a chain of three units or fewer, to a maximum of \$100 for

chains of more than 25 units.

The chain store law and the first measure in which consideration is

given to the Federation. The majority of the laws were enacted in the year

1934. The laws were passed in the following order: Kentucky, 1934; Illinois, 1934;

and graduated according to the number of stores. In Michigan, for example, a store

with 25 stores in the state pays \$100 for each store and \$100 for the chain.

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The new law is the first of its kind in the United States. It is the only

law of its kind in the United States. It is the only law of its kind in the

tax law is in the country at present but law can be easily changed.

Chain store taxes are not imposed on manufacturers of goods, but Federation

of Tax Administrators reported today. The Federation of Tax Administrators

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States with the chain store tax include: Alabama, California, Georgia, Kentucky,

Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska,

North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina,

South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin,

Mun. govt. - Reporting

Citizens Informed Of Governmental Activities By Improved Reports

American cities are making greater efforts to inform their citizens about local government and the way it is run, the International City Managers' Association reported today. In addition to issuing more detailed and informative annual reports, many cities now are using motion pictures and the radio as mediums for bringing the city hall and the citizen closer together.

Of the 100 or more annual municipal reports studied by the Association, some were merely financial statements, while 87 included discussions of expenditures and services performed.

The typical 1939 report, the Association said, was a 6-by-9-inch printed publication with a picture of a landmark or a view of the city on its cover. It contained charts which outlined the municipal organization, and the relationships between city departments. The written report discussed all phases of municipal activity. Financial data were presented on the final pages.

About 22 of the cities were prompt in issuing their annual reports--getting them to the citizens in less than six weeks after the end of the period covered. About 22 more did not publish their reports until more than four months after the end of the year. The average length of time was a little over 13 weeks.

The number of copies issued varied widely from city to city. About a fifth of the cities printed a copy for each family. The extremes showed 18 cities printing less than one copy per 100 citizens, and two cities issuing at least one report per citizen. In the typical city, one copy had to serve 24 persons. The mails were used frequently to distribute the reports, although distribution by firemen, policemen and relief workers was not uncommon. In some cities, copies of the report were placed on a counter in the city clerk's office under a "help yourself" sign.

The use of radio in reporting municipal activities was reported by at least 37 cities of 50,000 or more population, the Association said. Programs ranged from five-minute daily broadcasts to infrequent talks on special occasions. Individual discussions or interviews were used by such cities as Knoxville, Tenn., Miami, Fla., and Oakland and Berkeley, Calif. Dramatic productions were staged by Austin, Tex., Dayton, O., and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Movies were produced in 1939 by eight cities--Portland, Ore., Pasadena, Calif., Schenectady, N.Y., Topeka and Wichita, Kan., Lansing, Mich., East St. Louis, Ill., and Evansville, Ind. Portland made a technicolor film, entitled "Municipal Services," at a cost of \$175.

Other methods used by cities to keep their citizens informed included leaflets used to publicize municipal services or explain a tax bill, maps of public works, and explanations of various budget items.

Los Angeles Corrects Overzoning For Business

Zoning

Land Use

Los Angeles has a new remedy for overzoning of business property, the American Society of Planning Officials reported today. The remedy--turning the surplus land zoned for business into residential zones--may have followers in other cities with commercial overzoning, the Society said.

Los Angeles planning officials found recently that much more land had been set aside for business use than could possibly be utilized in many years to come. Not only was the city losing revenue from tax delinquencies on the properties lying vacant, but real estate interests were finding little market for the business-zoned property because of its oversupply. The planning commission changed approximately four miles of the surplus business-zone frontage to residential zones, which became eligible for residential construction financing. Many of the lots rezoned were immediately improved with residential building.

Commercially zoned property along boulevards is also being enlisted for residential use in several cases, the Society said. Plats, instead of fronting the street, are laid out with their sides to the street. Several subdividers have provided a 15-foot planting area next to the boulevard to remove residence lots from the traffic-way.

Surveys by planning agencies during the past few years show that many of the 1400-odd cities with zoning ordinances greatly over-anticipated needs for various kinds of land use, especially land set aside for business purposes, the Society said.

Des Moines recently found that enough space in the city had been zoned for commercial use to supply Minneapolis, a city almost four times as large. Worcester, Mass., has zoned enough land for business use for a city of over 800,000 people, although its population is about 195,000. St. Louis is using 1,768 acres for commercial purposes, as against 3,432 zoned in this class. Toledo has zoned 454,345 feet of frontage for commercial use; of this, 269,615 feet are actually utilized. The whole metropolitan region around Cleveland has zoned 240 miles of its 444 miles of main street for business purposes, while only 125 miles are now so used.

The fact that zoning has in many communities preceded planning is responsible for much of the over-anticipation in zoning, the Society said. Logically, a master plan based on a thorough survey of population trends, current industrial use and other factors would be made first, and zoning framed to play a part in carrying out the city plan.

Doberman Pinschers Join Berkeley Police Department

A dozen Doberman Pinscher dogs are performing useful service for the Berkeley, Calif., police department, Chief of Police J. A. Greening reported to the International City Managers' Association today. Their special value is that they can be trained to face gun fire and disarm the person using the firearm.

The dogs are owned by officers of the department, who pay \$100 each for them as pups. This price includes nine-months' training at the kennels. To help in training, the police officer owners are granted two hours a day, three days a week.

The dogs are used most frequently for protection of the officer or of other persons, and will guard a police car and equipment while the officer is away. This is one reason why Berkeley finds it unnecessary to put two men in a patrol car. The dogs will act as advance guard when an officer is trying doors and working alleys at night, and will watch prisoners and protect the officer when the latter has more than one prisoner on his hands. They have been found particularly useful in a fog, to warn the officer of a sick or injured person lying in the gutter.

Because of their unusual scenting power, the Doberman dog-policemen also are used to trail thieves and missing persons.

* * *

Tourists Can Serve As Own Guides In Monterey

Monterey, Calif., has devised an unusual "self-conducted" city tour for visitors which serves as a traffic control and question-saver, the American Municipal Association noted today.

At the entrance to the Monterey city hall, signs instruct the visitor to follow the red lines on the streets for points of interest. Painted red traffic stripes down the middle of the streets lead to the historic spots in the city. All the visitor has to do to make a complete, guided tour, is follow the lines and keep his eyes open.

* * *

JOINT REFERENCE

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MAR 13 1940

States "Localize" Problems In Campaigns Against Interstate Trade Barriers

The states are using a new approach today in their war against interstate trade barriers--an approach through "localization," in which interstate cooperation commissions of neighboring states meet in an effort to solve problems peculiar to the several states.

By ironing out trade barrier problems--such as the illegal transportation and sale of liquor--on a regional basis, the states can lay the groundwork for broad cooperative action on the same problems affecting adjoining or widely separated groups of states, according to the Council of State Governments.

A recent example of localizing the approach to an interstate problem was the conference in Chicago, on March 1, of representatives of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. The meeting, to consider methods of untangling conflicting state regulations on liquor traffic, was called by the Illinois Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation and the Council. As a result, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission took steps to check the bootlegging of Illinois liquor in neighboring states. A similar meeting, held recently in Buffalo, drew representatives from seven states.

Many meetings have been held in recent months to solve trade barrier problems, the Council said. One was an informal conference of motor vehicle administrators and cooperation commissions from 10 midwestern states. The results were reciprocal agreements on various phases of the problem between Iowa and Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota, and Nebraska and Minnesota. A recent reciprocal agreement between New York and Michigan removed one interstate trade barrier when Michigan waived the mileage tax and registration requirements formerly imposed on truck operators from New York, and New York waived fees of \$55 for trucks and \$30 for trailers imposed on Michigan operators. Now trucks from either state have free use of the other's highways.

The Council launched the drive against trade barriers in April, 1939, at the National Conference on Interstate Trade Barriers, in Chicago. Although the immediate result was the repeal of many state trade barrier laws, and the rejection of proposals designed to raise trade barriers, there were many problems which could be solved only through conference to adjust regulations of one state to another.

Weather, Highway Information Service Offered Motorists By State Police, *Set*

Motorists of Connecticut and West Virginia are receiving up-to-the-minute reports on weather and highway conditions throughout their states from information services inaugurated recently by the state police departments, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

The state police radio systems are used extensively by the Connecticut and West Virginia departments in gathering the information, which is relayed to motorists through commercial radio stations and by newspapers.

The Connecticut state police took over the road information service from the state department of motor vehicles. With the new traffic division of the department on 24-hour duty throughout the state, it was agreed that weather and highway information could be more readily obtained and disseminated by the state police.

Weather and road information is consolidated into bulletins for the newspapers and radio stations, the latter broadcasting the information continuously, in order that motorists may be warned of hazardous driving conditions. The service has been made a part of the state police department's traffic accident prevention program.

The information service of the West Virginia state police was developed recently to such an extent that the department's radio system now carries frequent bulletins on the highly varied and rapidly changing weather and highway conditions in that state. The bulletins are picked up and rebroadcast by commercial radio stations, police stations in adjoining states, and auto clubs.

In reporting the new developments in Connecticut and West Virginia, the Association pointed out that state police departments of several other states perform similar services for their motorists. These states include New Jersey, Indiana, Colorado, Michigan and Kansas.

Besides gathering data on weather and highway conditions, the New Jersey state police make an effort to reduce traffic congestion to a minimum on week-ends by the use of police radio. Reports from the various state police stations, and from an observation airplane, are broadcast from a commercial station at Newark. Frequent bulletins warn motorists of heavily-traveled highways, and suggest less traveled routes to reduce the congestion.

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Schools Look Toward Merit System For Teachers

Reports to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada indicate a growing interest in placing school teachers under local merit systems, the Assembly said today.

Three Connecticut cities--Bridgeport, New Britain and Norwalk--are the most recent to report action toward setting up a merit system for their school teachers, and the Chicago Federation of Teachers has gone on record as favoring competitive written examinations for promotions in the Chicago school system.

Bridgeport's teachers soon will be under a merit system as a result of action by the new board of education. The board, elected in a campaign in which the merit system for teachers was a major issue, has appointed a committee to prepare a classification plan for all teachers and school employes, and has directed the superintendent of schools to supervise preparation of examinations for all other teaching positions in the school system.

Under the plan proposed in New Britain, a board of qualified examiners would be selected to assist the superintendent of schools in the examination of candidates for teaching positions. In Norwalk, the board of education recently passed a resolution calling upon the board's committee on teachers to draw up recommendations regarding a merit system for the city's teachers.

Cities where teachers already are under merit systems, administered by local boards of education, include New York City, Los Angeles and Buffalo. In New York City, the examiners of the board of education are appointed after examination by the municipal civil service commission, but otherwise the commission has no jurisdiction over the appointment of teachers.

Non-teaching school employes like janitors, clerks and typists are included in the regular classified civil service in Minneapolis and Milwaukee, and in Illinois, Maryland and Wisconsin.

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Tort Liability Swings To Cities Rather Than Officials

When a private citizen sprains his ankle because of a broken curbstone, or is wrongfully arrested and convicted, who pays the damages--the street superintendent and the police officer, or the entire city government?

When governmental units were small, it was the street superintendent and the police office who would be held directly responsible for negligence regarding the curbstone or the unjust arrest. With the growing complexity and extent of city services, it became less possible to hold officials financially responsible for actions of dozens of subordinates, and there is now a trend toward municipal assumption of this responsibility--called tort liability--according to a report issued by Public Administration Service today.

Although the report, by Leon T. David, assistant city attorney of Los Angeles, deals mainly with California laws and cases, they are typical of the rest of the country as well, he said.

From a discussion of actual cases involving such municipal officers and functions as police, fire, health, judiciary, etc., Mr. David concludes that the law on tort liability is still "unsettled and unsatisfactory" in many aspects.

"When municipalities or other instrumentalities are exempted from liability because they are acting in a 'governmental' capacity, or for other reasons," the report said, "the injured person, seeking recourse somewhere, turns against the public officer involved. In a number of instances, perhaps subconsciously because of a desire that no wrong shall be without remedy, the courts pronounce the public officer liable, when, in fact, he should be found blameless."

Governmental assumption of tort liability is not yet complete, according to the report. City officials may expect to be held responsible when the city cannot legally be sued. The report cited many examples showing the extent of governmental liability in California. Under one statute, cities, counties and school districts are liable for the dangerous and defective condition of public streets, public works and property. Under another statute, school districts are liable for general negligence, but the school trustees are exempt. Reclamation districts also have been made liable for general negligence. The state and all subdivisions are liable for injuries to persons and property arising from operation of motor vehicles by officers and employees on duty.

While the prospect of personal liability "is still a potent factor in keeping public officers efficient," according to Mr. David, the "only safeguard to the citizen is the legitimate extension of liability to the governmental agencies themselves." Through their powers of taxation large cities are able to spread damage costs resulting from suits. Small cities, on the other hand, may find insurance on tort liability a better means than taxes for guarding against the "unforeseen catastrophe."

Method Of Separation, Citizen Cooperation Essential In Efficient Garbage Disposal

Two "important factors" in the successful and economical operation of a municipal garbage disposal system were named by the American Public Works Association today in describing methods of garbage separation used by the various cities.

The "important factors" are: 1) methods of disposal adopted by the city, and 2) citizen cooperation in making certain separations at the point of origin--at the home--before garbage and other refuse are collected by the city.

"The degree to which the individual citizen follows separation regulations will be reflected throughout disposal operations, and will contribute directly to the success or failure in the administration of this public service," the Association said.

Requirements governing the separation of garbage and other refuse are based not only on the method of disposal, but in many instances on practical uses to which refuse is put, the Association said. For example, if a city uses the hog-feeding method for disposal, the garbage must be separated from other classes of refuse. This applies also to paper in which garbage is wrapped, which usually is not permitted where hog feeding is practiced.

A number of cities--including Philadelphia, Indianapolis, Washington, D.C., and Rochester, N.Y.--dispose of garbage by the reduction process. This results in the extraction of grease, which usually is sold to soap companies. What is left is sold as fertilizer. If this process is used, the householder must keep his garbage separate from tin cans, bottles, broken glassware, ashes and other classes of refuse. The same separation requirement usually applies in cities where garbage is ground for fertilizer.

If a city uses incineration as a method of disposal, it may require citizens to cooperate by separating refuse into combustibles and noncombustibles, the Association said. The collector then can collect for incineration garbage and combustibles from one set of containers, while ashes and noncombustible rubbish may be disposed of by dumping.

Other methods of disposal may include open burning, open dumping and the sanitary fill method--all of which may require special separations by the householder. His individual efforts, while they may take a few minutes a day, eliminate additional costs to a city and facilitate disposal, the Association said.

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Two Texas Cities Set Up Complaint and Information Bureaus

Citizens of San Antonio and Dallas, Tex., now take their queries and complaints about city business directly to special bureaus of information and complaint recently established in their city halls, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The San Antonio bureau, set up January 15, handles inquiries and complaints for all city departments except the health service. In addition to having general informational material on file, the attendant directs inquirers to the proper departments, which iron out misunderstandings and report back to the information desk.

In Dallas the bureau answers inquiries at the rate of one every four minutes. On the bureau staff are a director, who is also in charge of traffic education and radio programs on municipal government, a secretary, and a National Youth Administration employe. When a complaint is made by telephone, letter or in person, it is recorded in triplicate. The original is retained by the bureau, and two copies are sent to the department concerned, which returns one of them when the complaint has been disposed of. A form post card is sent as a follow-up to the complainant after the department notifies the bureau how the complaint has been handled.

* * *

Coloradans Will Consider Civil Service Amendment

Colorado citizens will vote at the general elections next November on a recently filed initiative measure amending state constitutional provisions for civil service, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

An unusual provision of the initiative proposal is a requirement that members of the three-man civil service commission be appointed by the state supreme court. They will serve six-year overlapping terms, and may be removed by a majority vote of the court.

The measure also provides for appointment of a state personnel director, to be chosen by the civil service commission from among the three persons ranking highest in an open competitive examination administered by a special committee of public personnel officials.

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Civil Service Commission

Colorado citizens will vote at the general elections next November on a

measure which would amend the state constitution to provide for civil

service, the Civil Service Commission of the United States and Canada passed today.

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LIBRARY

EDITOR'S NOTE: State advertising and promotion is a recent and widespread activity, and the Council of State Governments has made a state-by-state survey to determine its growth and purpose. Following is the first of a series of four stories on the Council's findings.

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The states are operating today in a new and growing field--state advertising and promotion.

They have appropriated substantial sums of money, have set up advertising bureaus and agencies, and are using the widely-varied promotional methods of private enterprise. In return, the states expect to:

1. Increase their tourist and recreational traffic.
2. Secure new markets for their agricultural and industrial products.
3. Encourage the development of new state industries.

To determine the extent and purposes of state advertising, the states have cooperated through the Council of State Governments to make a survey of such activities. A report of the Council's findings has been prepared, and will be released this week.

The Council found that all the states but one--Delaware--are competing through advertising media for tourists, markets, investors or new industries. Thirty-nine of the states are spending this year appropriations totaling around \$4,400,000 to finance advertising. Municipalities or semi-official or private state-wide organizations are doing similar work in eight other states. About two-thirds of the state governments have set up special publicity agencies to handle their advertising campaigns.

Many methods and media are used to further state promotional efforts, the states reported. These include magazine and newspaper advertising, usually on a nationwide scale, the preparation of booklets and brochures for direct distribution, and the use of radio, motion pictures and billboards. In a number of states, the mail going out from state offices carries on the envelope a notice of the state's attraction. For example, envelopes from Vermont remind the sports enthusiast of the state's special attractions.

States advertise their agricultural and food products by stamping them with state insignia. Washington apples, Florida citrus fruits, Idaho potatoes, and peaches from Georgia and North and South Carolina are so stamped. New Jersey milk bears a map of the state on the milk cap. Georgia's motor vehicle license plates remind observers of the state's peach crop; Wisconsin's advertise "America's Dairyland." To attract new industries, Florida, Arkansas, and nineteen other states, grant tax concessions; New Jersey provides financial assistance for new industries with satisfactory earnings records; other states offer plant facilities or cash bonuses.

The entrance of most of the states into the advertising and promotional fields was caused--or hastened, at least--by the depression, the survey indicated. Before 1935, only six state governments--Arizona, Florida, Maine, Michigan, Vermont and Wyoming--were actively advertising. The depression, however, led states to look about for new sources of income, and by the end of the 1935 legislative sessions seven more states had joined the ranks. The legislatures of 19 additional states appropriated money for state advertising in 1937. As a result of 1939 legislative sessions, money was appropriated and advertising bureaus set up by Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Nebraska, Ohio, South Carolina and West Virginia.

(MORE)

Following is a table showing in detail the individual state appropriations, purposes of campaigns, the media used, and the types of encouragements to industry.

State	1940 Funds	Spent to Attract			Advertising Media					Encouragements to Industry		
		Indus- try	Agri- cul.	Tour- ists	Maga- zine	News- paper	Dir. Mail	Mov- ies	Ra- dio	Tax cessions	Con- f.	Plant Facil.
Ala.	\$ 60,000	*		*	*	*	*		*	*		
Ariz.	75,000	*		*	*		*					
Ark.	75,000	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*		*
Calif.												
Colo.	17,500	*		*			*	*				
Conn.	30,000	*	*	*	*	*	*					
Del.										*		
Fla.	825,000	*	*	*	*	*	*			*		
Ga.												
Ida.	65,000		*		*	*						
Ill.	125,000	*	*	*								*
Ind.	25,000	*	*	*	*	*	*		*			
Ia.												
Kans.	60,000	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			
Ky.	20,000	*		*	*		*			*		
La.	125,000	*		*	*	*	*			*		*
Maine	300,000	*	*	*	*	*			*			
Md.	46,000	*	*	*			*	*		*		
Mass.	85,900	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*		*
Mich.	125,000		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Minn.	50,000			*	*	*	*	*	*			
Miss.	50,000	*	*	*	*	*	*			*		
Mo.												
Mont.	60,000			*	*	*	*		*			
Neb.	25,000											
Nev.	7,500	*		*	*		*			*		*
N.H.	98,414	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*
N.J.	100,000	*	*	*	*	*	*					*
N.M.	135,000			*	*	*	*					
N.Y.	500,000	*	*	*	*	*			*			
N.C.	100,000	*		*	*	*	*					
N.D.	50,000	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			
Ohio	100,000	*	*							*		
Okla.												
Ore.	100,000			*	*	*	*	*				
Penna.	394,000	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*
R.I.	22,500	*		*	*	*	*			*		*
S.C.												
S.D.	40,000	*	*	*		*	*		*			
Tenn.	50,000	*	*	*	*	*	*			*		*
Tex.												
Utah	20,000			*	*	*	*					
Vt.	45,000	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*		
Va.	68,500	*		*	*	*		*		*		
Wash.	166,000	*		*	*		*					
W.Va.	25,000	*	*	*	*							
Wis.	68,615		*	*	*	*	*	*				
Wyo.	32,500	*		*	*	*	*	*		*		

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of four stories on state advertising and promotion, based on a survey by the Council of State Governments. It will discuss funds spent and inducements offered by the states in their efforts to attract tourists, find markets and encourage new industries.

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Promotion

Among the questions asked in the Council of State Government's state-by-state survey on advertising and promotion were: How much is being spent by your state on advertising? What agencies direct the promotional work? How are funds for state advertising obtained? Answers to the questions were supplied by every state.

Thirty-nine states are spending around \$4,400,000 this year in advertising for tourists and publicizing home products--and funds available range from \$825,000 in Florida to \$7,500 in Nevada. Between these extremes are such appropriations as \$500,000 by New York, \$394,000 by Pennsylvania, \$300,000 by Maine, \$166,000 by Washington, \$135,000 by New Mexico, \$100,000 by Oregon, \$83,900 by Massachusetts, \$68,615 by Wisconsin, and \$50,000 by Minnesota.

In setting out on promotional campaigns, 23 states deemed it advisable to establish special publicity bureaus independent of existing state departments. The 1939 Indiana legislature, for example, established the Division of State Publicity and appropriated \$50,000 to run it during the 1940 and 1941 fiscal years. Mississippi's State Advertising Commission, set up in 1936, handles the state's promotional work. Typical independent agencies and the year they were established are: Alabama State Planning Commission, 1939; Arkansas Agricultural and Industrial Commission, 1937; Connecticut Development Commission, 1939; Maryland Publicity Commission, 1939; Rhode Island Industrial Commission, 1939.

Advertising and promotional activities for the other 17 states were, for the most part, placed in the hands of existing state departments. The Department of Finance is the advertising agency for Illinois; the Conservation Department for Kentucky; the Department of Conservation and Development for Vermont; and the Highway Department for Oregon. In four or five states, two departments do promotional work. For example, Alabama has its State Planning Commission, and a State Bureau of Publicity and Information in the highway department. New York is publicized by its Bureau of State Publicity, in the Conservation Department, and by the Bureau of Milk Publicity, in the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Funds for financing the various state advertising campaigns were obtained by two methods. Twenty-six states appropriated all the money from their general funds. Ten states earmarked specific tax revenues for advertising. The other three states appropriated funds by both methods.

The eight states which make no appropriations say they are publicized by other agencies. California is amply advertised by municipalities, private agencies, and organizations of producers. It is estimated that for the 1938-39 marketing year alone, more than \$800,000 was spent by such groups in promotion of California peaches, pears, prunes, wines and olives. North Dakota is served by its private agency, the Greater North Dakota Association--composed of 17 state and 53 county directors. The Association's funds, \$50,000 a year, are obtained from memberships and contributions. Iowa and Missouri have designated departments to answer inquiries about the state; Texas is publicized by its municipalities, some of which conduct nationwide campaigns; Georgia and South Carolina participate in the joint efforts of the southern states. Oklahoma is considering plans to establish a new agency to take the place of the repealed State Travel and Tourist Bureau.

Thus every state in the union except Delaware makes some provisions to distribute information regarding its attractions, its peculiar advantages, or its agricultural and industrial products.

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Florida is \$7,200,000 in Nevada. Between these extremes are such appropriations as

\$5,000 by New York, \$25,000 by Pennsylvania, \$300,000 by Maine, \$100,000 by

Illinois, \$125,000 by New Mexico, \$100,000 by

and \$15 by Wisconsin, and \$20,000 by Minnesota.

In setting out on promotional campaigns, 23 states deemed it advisable to
of Indiana legislature, for example, established the Division of State Publicity and
expended \$20,000 to run it during the 1940 and 1941 fiscal years. Mississippi's
Advertising Commission set up in 1936, handles the state's promotional work.

Advertising and promotional activities for the other 17 states were, for the
most part, placed in the hands of existing state departments. The Department of Finance
is the advertising agency for Illinois; the Conservation Department for Maryland; the
Department of Conservation and Development for Vermont; and the Highway Department for
In four or five states, two departments do promotional work. For example,

the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Funds for financing the various state advertising campaigns were obtained by

For states earmarked specific tax revenues for advertising. The other three states
related funds by both methods.

The eight states which make no appropriations say they are publicized by

more than \$300,000 was spent by such groups in promotion of California peaches,
apples, prunes, wines and olives. North Dakota is served by its private agency, the
Greater North Dakota Association—composed of 17 state and 25 county directors. The

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third of four stories on state advertising, based on a survey by the Council of State Governments. It discusses the purposes of state promotional campaigns, the advertising media used, and briefly, a few results of the state campaigns.

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Promotional State

In return for the money they spend on promotion, the states hope to attract the tourist, find new markets for their agricultural and industrial products, encourage the development of new industries and, in some cases, attract new residents.

To accomplish their purposes, the states are spending around \$4,400,000 this year on local, regional and nationwide advertising through magazines, newspapers, direct mail, motion pictures and the radio. Industrial encouragements also are offered in the form of tax exemptions and concessions, and plant facilities.

An analysis of answers to the Council's questionnaire shows that 42 states are competing for the tourist trade--many appropriations being made expressly for this purpose. Twenty-five states encourage new industries, and 25 publicize home products in efforts to find new markets. Only seven states--Florida, Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey, North Dakota, Tennessee and Washington--reported advertising campaigns designed to attract new residents.

The Council pointed out that a few large sums were made available for one specific product each. The Florida Citrus Commission, for example, spends about \$750,000 a year in advertising Florida oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and canned citrus products. The commission, set up by the legislature in 1935, obtains advertising funds through a tax of 1 cent per box on oranges, 3 cents on grapefruit, and 5 cents on tangerines. Maine and Idaho spend around \$100,000 and \$65,000 a year respectively to advertise their potatoes--raising the money by taxing that product.

While giving no specific figures, the states said great portions of their appropriations are spent on magazine, newspaper and direct mail advertising. Of the 39 states with advertising appropriations, 34 advertise through magazines, 30 through newspapers, and 32 use direct mail. Fourteen advertise through motion pictures, and 11 by radio. Only three states--Florida, Rhode Island and Washington--said they used billboard advertising.

A different type of promotional technique--involving tax concessions, tax exemptions, or free plant facilities--is used by most of the 25 states which encourage and promote new industries. Florida and Arkansas exempt new industries from paying taxes for 15 and 10 years respectively. In Michigan, tax concessions, and plant sites and facilities are offered by many cities, and in a few instances cash bonuses have been given; Maryland exempts manufacturing machinery from taxation; New Jersey makes funds available for new industrial construction by companies with satisfactory earning records; in Pennsylvania, the state makes concessions as to delinquent taxes, some communities offer plant facilities, and local organizations sometimes pay all or part of the cost of moving industries to their towns.

In reporting to the Council, most states said it was difficult to point out tangible results of their advertising campaigns because they were not started until 1937 and 1939. However, a few states, which started in 1937, reported as follows: Arkansas--92 new factories built recently in the state, representing a total investment of \$2,600,000; New Jersey--a substantial increase in the number of tourists, who spent \$167,000,000 in 1939, and an increase of 28 per cent in the value of the state's branded advertised products; North Carolina--an "upward swing" in its tourist business since the state started advertising, and the construction of 51 new industrial plants during the first eight months of 1939; Wisconsin--marked increases in the number of tourists visiting the state since its advertising program was started in 1936, an increase in gasoline tax receipts from \$6,500,000 in 1935 to \$8,030,000 in 1939, and in non-resident fishing licenses from 65,157 to 112,185. It is, of course, uncertain just how much all these increases were caused directly by state efforts.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth and final story in a series on state advertising and promotional activities, prepared from a report by the Council of State Governments.

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Promotion, State

The substantial appropriations provided by many of the states are causing concern to persons throughout the country who see in the competition of advertising a potential growth of sectionalism, the Council of State Governments said in its report on the extent and purpose of state advertising and promotion.

The Council also cited a report prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the Secretary of Agriculture, which noted the "dangers inherent" in such competition.

"Fear on the part of the various states that the demand for their products may be reduced by the advertising of rival states is a potential source of resentment," the Bureau of Agricultural Economics said. "Perhaps the most probable eventuality is that each state will hesitate not to advertise for fear of losing its market, and that most of the states which produce a peculiar commodity will engage in competitive advertising campaigns. To what extent such campaigns would raise the total demand for the commodity and would not serve merely to counteract one another and add to marketing costs is a matter for conjecture until it can be illuminated by statistical research."

It seems to be true, the Council said, that the states themselves at the present time have no more than a feeling of friendly rivalry toward other states competing for tourists--and in many instances this is true of the competition for new industries. Most of the states, also, would reply to the charge that their advertising erects state trade barriers with the statement that they are not seeking to better their own economic condition at the expense of other states, but to increase the total number of industries or the total consumption of an agricultural product.

"As for the encouragement of tourists--Americans are notorious as much for their itching feet as for their susceptibility to advertising, and the recreational advantages throughout the country are more varied than truly competitive," the report said.

The Council said that the European war, since it began after most of the legislative sessions had adjourned, had in most cases no effect upon the amount of money available for advertising, and hence will exert little influence upon the advertising programs of the states during this year. The states are keenly aware, however, of the army of tourists whose wanderings now are restricted to this hemisphere, and each state is eager that its treasury receive its proper share of the money which will be spent by them.

As for the results of the multiple campaigns, the states seem to be unanimously enthusiastic, the Council said. Those which have scenic and climatic advantages realize that each of the states is in a measure unique, and that many tourists will, if given time, go to many of them.

The same is not true of the competition for industries. If a tourist goes one year to the Great Smokies for his vacation, he may go the next year to New England's mountains and seashore; whatever his decision, there is no permanent loss to any region. But if an industry is induced to move, its migration takes many thousands of dollars from the community, and leaves unemployed workers and idle equipment behind.

Such a situation may develop extreme competition among the states and lead to the encouragement of undue tax concessions, exemptions, and exploitation of wage differentials, the Council said.

Cities Add Radio To Fire-Fighting Equipment

Co-operative use of police radio is increasing the effectiveness of fire-fighting forces in many American cities, a report from the International City Managers' Association showed today.

Over one-way radio systems, fire officials may detail companies to fires, order follow-up maneuvers by other companies, recall companies, and shift equipment and men from fire to fire.

When a two-way system is available, fire department headquarters can maintain continuous contact with companies in the field and in stations. In this way, "back-road brush fires can be brought into as close co-ordination with headquarters as blazes in mid-city buildings," the report said.

Among the several hundred fire departments using two-way police radio, those in Schenectady, N.Y., and Austin, Tex., report especially satisfactory results, according to the report. The Chicago fire department is using portable radio equipment on the scene of fires.

Schenectady last year installed two-way radio sets in the fire chief's and the deputy chief's cars at a cost of \$1,468. Each car has a loudspeaker which may be used if neither the officer nor driver is in the car. The equipment proved so valuable in receiving messages from police radio headquarters and for directing the work of firemen that two-way sets are to be installed this year in a third officer's car and in the rescue squad's truck.

In Austin, the radio system brought about a 37 per cent reduction in the actual time fire companies were "out of service" making unnecessary runs and investigations. While the police radio system is in use, broadcasts to fire officials are made directly from the fire alarm office, which is connected by telephone wires to the police broadcasting station. The amplifier system for fire purposes, built by police radio technicians, cost \$375, and each of the high-frequency transmitters, \$75.

The Chicago "fire-radio" is a development of low-power two-way portable systems first used in fighting forest fires. Each set, 11½x8x3 inches in size, is carried strapped to the chest, and weighs about 7½ pounds. Attached to it is an aerial which can be extended to a 40-inch length. Pressing a button changes the set from a receiver to a transmitter. The wave length is the same as that of police squad cars, so that firemen and police can be directed to work together when it is necessary.

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transmitters, \$75.

The Chicago "fire-radio" is a development of low-power two-way portable

equipment used in fighting forest fires. Each set, slightly larger in size, is

to the chest, and weighs about 7 1/2 pounds. Attached to it is an

1 Public Welfare - Administration

New York State Welfare Agency Uses "Case Review" To Improve Local Relief Aid

The New York state welfare department is developing a "case review procedure" on local relief cases which represents a pioneer step toward making more uniform the handling of aid to the needy throughout the state, according to a report made to the American Public Welfare Association today.

New York's public assistance program is administered by local public welfare agencies, and is supervised by the state department of social welfare through seven "area" offices. The state shares the cost of the program, but each local welfare department for the greater part establishes its own relief policies to suit the locality.

In the case review process, traveling representatives of the state welfare department review the records of individual families receiving aid. They check sample cases, in most localities selecting about 10 per cent of the total number of relief cases. The local office cooperates with the state representative in the review.

The case review process is based on the theory that the state representative can judge from the records of individual families the soundness or unsoundness of the whole procedure of relief administration, the report said. The case review is meant to provide a uniform measure of local practice, upon which may be based recommendations for improvements in terms of cost, efficiency, and service. It may also provide valuable information on such subjects as personnel and office management.

The principal documents reviewed are the case record, the budget and the eligibility record of the relief client. The review establishes whether the case is eligible for relief and whether too much relief has been granted. A review of accounting procedures is also made. The local staff is allowed one month to re-review the apparently ineligible cases and give reasons if they are to remain on public aid rolls.

In the future, the New York state department hopes to use the case review process as a means of collecting information on relief trends and checking the effectiveness of relief programs over a long-term period. Findings will be used also in building the training program for welfare workers.

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C O R R E C T I O N: The News Bulletin release for Mar. 6 on chain store taxes was inaccurate in listing Wisconsin as having this tax. We were later informed that the Wisconsin tax expired July 1, 1939. The total number of states with chain store taxes now stands at 20.

the training program for welfare workers.

* * *

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New York's public assistance program is administered by local public welfare offices, and is supervised by the state department of social welfare through semi-annual "case review" offices. The state shares the cost of the program, but each local welfare office is responsible for the greater part of the cost. The state has established its own relief policies to guide the case review process, traveling representatives of the state welfare department review the records of individual families receiving aid. They check records, in most localities selecting about 10 per cent of the total number of relief cases. The local office cooperates with the state representative in the review.

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JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY

WPA Wages Comprise 56 Per Cent Of Relief Bill In Nation's Urban Areas

Wages for Work Projects Administration employees accounted for 56 per cent of the \$1,262,547,000 relief bill for 116 thickly populated urban areas in 1939. This was shown today in an article on relief expenditures to be published by the International City Managers' Association in its 1940 Year Book.

The 56 per cent represents \$710,912,000 paid by the federal government to WPA workers last year. It was pointed out that in 1938, WPA wages amounted to 63 per cent of the total relief bill for these urban areas, which are cities or counties containing cities of 50,000 or more population.

The amount spent by the local governments of these urban areas for general relief in 1939 totaled \$329,327,000--or about 26 per cent of the total relief bill, according to the Association. Per capita expenditures ranged from one cent to \$15.18 a person and included contributions for materials for WPA projects, direct relief in cash and goods, and aid to needy veterans. The average per capita expenditure for all the areas was \$4.93.

A total of \$221,802,000 was spent for aid to special groups of unemployables, such as the aged, the blind, and dependent children--the figure representing 17 per cent of the total expenditures. A part of the funds for such aid was contributed by the federal government under the Social Security Act. On a per capita basis, expenditures ranged from 80 cents to \$15.22. However, per capita costs were over the \$10 mark in only five cities; below the \$1 mark in only three cities.

A further decline was reported in the amount spent by private agencies in the 116 urban areas for relief. The \$12,322,000 contributed by these agencies represented .97 per cent of the total. In 1933, private agencies contributed 18 per cent of the aggregate expenditure in the urban areas. The amount contributed by private agencies has been below 2 per cent, however, since 1935.

The article, based on figures from the Social Security Board, pointed out that amounts expended per inhabitant vary greatly from area to area and from state to state. This is because the localities and states differ greatly in their ability to provide funds for general relief and for participation in the public assistance program under the Social Security Act. There also are differences in standards of relief, the cost and standard of living, and general economic conditions.

Many States Permit Assessment Of Back Taxes At Later Date

Purchasers of real estate in 33 states should check old tax records if they wish to insure themselves against liability for back taxes on property that may have been left off the tax rolls, a survey by the National Association of Assessing Officers showed today.

In these states, according to the survey, "back-taxing" of any property left off the tax rolls during the regular assessment period is permissible from one year back to an indefinite period in the past. Experience indicates that a frequent cause of omission of real estate parcels is the lack of adequate tax maps, the Association said. The parcels are usually discovered when tax maps are first installed or a reassessment project is undertaken.

In 11 of the 33 states, property that has been overlooked may be assessed as far back as the omission occurred. These eleven are: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Washington. Texas and Oklahoma, in addition, permit back assessments for any year after 1870 and 1907, respectively.

In the other 20 states with retroactive assessment provisions, property owners may be taxed for only a specified number of years back. The number of years varies from 15 in Mississippi to one in New York. Seven states specify three prior years, while eight specify five.

Five states permit back-taxing only to the date of the last sale or transfer of the property. Any change of ownership forestalls assessment for prior omissions in Michigan. In California, Illinois, Kansas and Nebraska, the transfer must be in the form of a sale or mortgage foreclosure in order to avoid back-taxing. The Ohio and Wyoming laws are similar in permitting assessment for five prior years or for as many of such years as the property was in the hands of the present owner.

In a few states, the right to assess property expires within a year of the assessment date, the survey showed. Property in Connecticut, for example, aside from a few cities governed by special act, cannot be listed after eight months following the assessment date. Other states requiring all assessments to be made in the current year include Delaware, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Vermont. In Arkansas omitted property can be added to the rolls of any year for which the collector has not yet closed his books.

Purchasers of real estate in 33 states should check old tax records if they wish to avoid double taxation. Officers showed today.

In these states, according to the survey, "back-taxing" of any property left off the list during the current assessment year is prohibited. The parcels are usually discovered when tax maps are first installed or a reassessment project is undertaken.

In 11 of the 33 states, property that has been overlooked may be assessed as late as the omission occurred. These eleven are: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin. In addition, permit back assessments for any year after 1970 and 1977, respectively.

In the other 20 states with retroactive assessment provisions, property may be taxed for only a specified number of years back. The number of years varies from 1 to 10. Five states specify five years, while eight specify five.

Five states permit back-taxing only to the date of the last sale or transfer of the property. The states are: California, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. The Federal Government is also authorized to back-tax property. Wyoming laws are similar in permitting assessment for five prior years or for as many of such years as the property was in the hands of the present owner.

In a few states, the right to assess property expires within a year of the assessment date, the survey showed. Property in Connecticut, for example, aside from a small amount of property which may be taxed after that period, is assessed only once a year. The survey also showed that the Federal Government is authorized to back-tax property for as long as 10 years.

Public Housing Projects Need Low Utility Rates, Report Shows

The rates on gas, electricity and other utility services to public housing projects must be scaled down to a level commensurate with other costs, or rents in these projects are likely to be so high as to prohibit financial assistance by the federal government, a report from the legal committee of the National Association of Housing Officials said today.

Aid from the United States Housing Authority to local authorities is granted only if project rents can be made low enough to serve the lowest income group, the report pointed out. If rents are high, it is impossible for the lowest income families to live in the projects; consequently, if utility rates, which are an item of rent, are so high as to make low rents out of the question, the projects can get no federal aid.

Statistics cited from the United States Housing Authority show that local housing authorities throughout the country have succeeded in so reducing rents in the large-scale projects that the charges for utility services are usually one-third to one-half as much as the charge for shelter itself. In some cases, utility charges even equal or exceed the charge for shelter.

In typical public housing projects in the South, charges for utility services may add as much as \$4.00 a month to the average charge for shelter, which ranges from \$7.00 to \$12.25, the report said. In the North, such utility charges range from \$6.00 to \$7.50, while comparable shelter charges may reach \$21.00.

The report said that local housing authorities are justified in requesting lower utility rates for their tenants than may be charged other home-users in the community. The reasons are:

Although public utilities, as a condition to their franchises, must serve all customers without discrimination, the courts have consistently recognized that this requirement of uniformity extends only to members of like or similar classes. A classification of consumers in the housing projects as "different" is therefore not unlawful discrimination.

Differences in the type of service furnished to low-rent housing projects also entitle them to a special rate classification. Electric service, for example, can be supplied a multiple dwelling project at less cost to the utility, since there need be no individual meters, transformers, electric bills, etc.

In a low-rent housing project, the utility acquires many consumers who otherwise would be unable to use electricity at all, and the large volume of consumption in many cases also justifies special rates.

Housing has been declared by legislative bodies and sustained by the courts as a public use, which automatically puts it in the group of public institutions deserving of favorable utility rates.

Evanston Police Use "Sound" Car In Drive Against Jaywalkers

The hurrying shopper and heedless stroller look both ways and up at the traffic lights before attempting to cross Evanston, Ill., streets these days. This is a result of a campaign by Evanston's police department to educate the jaywalking pedestrian through use of a cruising patrol car equipped with a loud speaker.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police tells how the system works. The "sound" car parks near a busy intersection and the patrolman "announcer" sees a person attempting to cross the street against the lights.

"The man with the derby and cane has just tried to beat the gun by stepping off the curb before the light turned green," says the loudspeaker as an introductory remark--centering the attention of persons waiting for the green light on the embarrassed figure.

"That man has just risked his life by disobeying the state law," the announcer continues. "Some day the luck that is taking him to the opposite curb alive will desert him--then he may not reach the curb alive. He is not exercising common-sense caution."

The man with the derby and cane disappears in the crowd, while the sound car drives on to spot a figure dashing across the street in the middle of the block. "The man who couldn't wait to get to the cross-walk, but had to run across the street in the middle of the block, may not live to do that stunt many more times," comes the voice of the announcer. Everyone in the vicinity hears the warnings as the sound car cruises about in search of jaywalkers.

The loudspeaker campaign was started in January after four pedestrians were struck by automobiles and killed during a 60-day period. Since the campaign was started, there have been no fatal accidents of this type in Evanston. One cause of the problem, police officials said, is that Evanston is a shopping center for many surrounding suburbs, which necessitates a constant campaign against traffic accidents.

The Association said the police departments of several cities--including San Francisco and Detroit--have used the loudspeaker method in traffic safety campaigns, but that the Evanston method was the most unusual.

The Evanston police department also issues warning tickets for pedestrian violations, and if a pedestrian receives a third ticket he is liable for arrest and fine.

Six States Act To Integrate Tax Administration

Reorganization of state tax departments, resulting in their integration into fewer agencies or a single agency, was reported for six states today in a survey by the Federation of Tax Administrators covering the past twelve months.

The states making the changes toward coordination included Minnesota, Kansas, North Dakota, Iowa, Idaho and Texas. For the entire 48 states, a check on eight major taxes showed that the 135 agencies administering them were reduced to 131 during the twelve months, although the total number of taxes represented increased from 305 to 308. The taxes called "major" were the general property, income, sales, gasoline, inheritance and estate, motor vehicle registration, tobacco, and liquor levies.

As part of a general financial reorganization, Minnesota reconstructed its tax-administering agencies, reducing the number from five to three. Kansas replaced its Department of Inspection and Registration and its Tax Commission with a new office headed by a Director of Revenue under supervision of the Commissioner of Revenue and Taxation. North Dakota transferred liquor taxes from the "regulatory department" to the Tax Commission.

Iowa created a Tax Commission to take charge of six of the major taxes formerly under two other agencies, in addition to other tax functions which had been scattered among other state agencies. In Idaho the existing Tax Commissioner took over administration of eight taxes formerly distributed among three agencies. Texas abolished the office of State Tax Commissioner, allocating his duties to other agencies.

Changes with some coordinating effect were reported also for Alabama, Colorado, Oklahoma and Ohio. Rhode Island's state reorganization act revised the tax-administering agencies, which were already integrated under one head.

Wisconsin was the only state to go counter to consolidation. Early in 1939, administration of the gasoline and liquor taxes in this state was transferred from the Tax Commission to the Treasury Department, which was also given charge of the tobacco tax enacted later. The Department of Taxation, which replaced the Tax Commission, was left in charge of general property, income and inheritance, chain store and utility taxes.

Eight states administer their major taxes through one agency, according to the survey. They are: Georgia, Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Utah. At the other end of the list, one state has six agencies and one has five. The most common number of tax agencies in a state is three--14 have this number--and 11 states utilize four agencies.

Personal Public - For [unclear]

New York City Refuse Collectors To Undergo Strength Tests

New York City's future refuse collectors must prove themselves of better than average strength by passing a strenuous physical examination as well as a written civil service test, the American Public Works Association said today.

The physical examination inaugurated for 35,000 candidates for refuse collecting jobs will test and grade such abilities as handling an ash can, manipulating 50- to 80-pound dumbbells, endurance running with weights, jumping a three-foot hurdle and fence climbing.

Through these physical tests, the department hopes to secure better qualified personnel and to reduce physical injuries in the service to a minimum. Candidates may train for the endurance examination in gymnasiums made available to them without cost by the city's department of parks and the board of education.

* * *

Visiting Housekeepers Aid Poorly-Housed In Cincinnati

Hired by the city's Better Housing League, six visiting housekeepers are assisting Cincinnati's unemployed families, many of whom are on relief, with their housing problems, the National Association of Housing Officials reported today.

The job of the visiting housekeepers is to improve home management and living conditions wherever possible. They try to help families given eviction orders, and move those who are ill into better homes when they are available. They also attempt to secure condemnation or repair of uninhabitable houses through the local building department.

Families in the city's public low-rent housing projects are also being aided by the housekeepers. Their salaries are paid by the local Community Chest Fund of which the Better Housing League is a member organization.

* * *

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Purchasing Centralized In More Than One-Third Of Larger Cities

More than a third of the nation's 310 cities of over 30,000 population buy municipal supplies through centralized purchasing departments or agencies, according to a report to be published by the International City Manager's Association in its 1940 Municipal Year Book. Eight of these cities centralized their purchasing in 1939, bringing to 123 the number following this plan.

With a few exceptions, all supplies in the 123 cities are purchased by single agencies. In some of the cities, hospitals, water departments or police boards may buy supplies used exclusively by these governmental agencies.

An analysis based on reports from 83 cities submitting purchasing expenditures for 1938 showed that these municipalities bought \$104,276,000 in supplies through their centralized purchasing departments--an average of \$1,256,000 per city. It was pointed out, however, that 10 cities of more than 500,000 population bought supplies worth \$39,128,000 for an average expenditure of about \$3,913,000 in 1938; or more than three times as much as the average expenditure for the 44 cities reporting in the 30,000 to 100,000 population group.

Seventy-five of the 123 purchasing agencies have full-time directors; the others have part-time directors--officials who also have other duties to perform. The salary range for these directors is \$1,800 to \$10,000 a year. However, the lowest salary paid in the cities with more than 500,000 population is \$5,000. The director usually is appointed by the mayor, council or city manager, although a few are named by city finance or purchasing boards.

With the exception of New York City and San Francisco, where the city purchasing departments use 720 and 123 employees respectively, the number of employees reported by the 123 cities ranges from one to 55. Purchasing department employees in three-fourths of 51 reporting cities of over 100,000 population are under civil service, the report said. Of the 72 reporting cities with 100,000 or less population, purchasing department employees of only 29 are under civil service.

A great proportion of purchases was made from local merchants and dealers in most of the reporting cities. Local businessmen received 95 per cent of their city's business in 15 cities, 90 per cent in 12 cities, 85 per cent in 11 cities, 80 per cent in 13 cities, 75 per cent in 11 cities and 70 per cent in six cities. One city--Augusta, Ga.--said 98 per cent of city purchases were made from local businessmen through its centralized bureau.

In many of the cities, the purchasing department must have the permission of the city council to make purchases exceeding certain cost limits set by the council. These limits range for the most part from \$25 to \$2,000, although a few cities have \$5 or \$10 limits. About a dozen cities said council approval is not needed for any purchase. In many cities the purchasing department must make yearly reports on its buying activities.

"Ten-Year Housing Program" Under Way In Louisville, Ky.

A 10-year program which includes slum clearance and public housing, provision of low-rent housing by private enterprise, and the elimination of neighborhood deteriorating influences, has been launched by Louisville, Ky., information from the National Association of Housing Officials showed today.

As a first step in developing their program, Louisville officials sought to answer these questions--what kind of houses should be built? where should they be built? what low income and racial groups should be served, and in what proportion? how large are the groups from which available tenants can be drawn?

Light was thrown on these questions by two recently-completed surveys in Louisville, one of all real property and the other a more detailed study of low-income housing, the Association said. These studies give as complete and detailed a picture as possible of families living in sub-standard housing. Although the surveys were not limited to families which can be served only by the housing authority's projects, they do show how much rent persons now living in slums and blighted areas can pay.

The two surveys have served as a springboard for intense studies of all sub-standard housing units in Louisville, and are resulting in the recognition and definition of three types of neighborhoods, the Association said. The types are: (1) definitely slum areas; (2) deteriorating districts that will be the slums of tomorrow, and (3) districts showing the first signs of deterioration.

A main objective of the 10-year plan is the encouragement and coordination of broad planning principles to include recreation, education, sanitation, transportation, and other activities in an effort to halt or slow down the blighting process in the deteriorating areas.

Study of design, construction and management of housing projects in order to lower costs and rentals is one of the most important phases of the program. It was pointed out that the Louisville Municipal Housing Commission, as the local housing authority is called, is managing two projects built by the Public Works Administration, has two developments of its own under construction, and two more in advanced stages of planning. The Association said that local architects will compete in designing Louisville's next two projects.

While planning for the extremely low income groups, the Louisville housing authority is giving encouragement and leadership to moves for neighborhood rehabilitation and plans for building new housing under private enterprise--the latter possibly with the assistance of the Federal Housing Administration. This part of the program would serve income groups above those for which the authority is providing housing.

Last but not least in developing the Louisville program is a study leading toward improving the city's demolition and building codes, according to the authority's report.

The Association said the 10-year plan represents "an elastic, workable, long-range housing program--as far ahead of the simple idea of project building as that conception is ahead of the old argument that housing problems would be cured automatically if the market for middle-class dwellings was consistently overbuilt and the surplus handed down to those less well off." The Louisville plan also indicates that a broadly conceived program need not hinder the "vigorous prosecution of specific developments."

Gasoline Tax

Taxation - Exemptions

Gas Tax Refunds Raise Big Problems For Tax Administrators

Gasoline tax refunds and exemptions, allowed for various reasons on almost a tenth of the gallonage sold in the 48 states, constitute one of the biggest problems of gasoline tax administration, a report by the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

Refunds for general non-highway uses of gasoline are given by 31 states and the District of Columbia, while 15 other states give tax refunds only on fuel used for specified purposes. Most of the refunds are given on gasoline used for: agriculture (the largest category), industry and manufacturing, contracting and construction, governmental, aviation, railroads and boats, power generating machines, exports, and cleaning and dyeing.

During 1938, according to the report, the number of gallons on which tax payment was either refunded or exempted ranged as high as 191,697,000 gallons in California and 191,447,000 in Texas. For the country as a whole, about 1,900,000,000 gallons out of 21,400,000,000 sold in 1938 were subject to either tax refund or exemption. The number of refund claims averaged 90,000 per state.

To carry on these refund transactions, as many as 30 full-time employes are assigned in one state, and 27 full-time and 27 part-time employes in another, the Federation said. The annual cost of administering refunds in the various reporting states ranged from \$1,200 to \$75,000.

The refund-granting process centers around reports by the gasoline user, who is required generally to keep a record of the amount and purpose for which nontaxable gasoline is used. This information goes into the refund claim made to the gasoline tax administrator's office. If the refund claim is deemed accurate, a refund is granted and the tax paid is returned to the user. Exemptions are granted when the gasoline is purchased, and exemption claims are checked by the same method used in checking refund claims.

The gasoline tax administrator's first big problem is to determine the accuracy of information in the claim for refund or exemption, the report said. Dates of sales slips sometimes are altered by claimants to bring them within the time limit for filing, and gallonage figures sometimes are enlarged.

Gasoline sales on federal reservations within states are exempt from state fuel taxes. This exemption raises another administrative problem, since gasoline sold to federal employes on reservations is taxable if the fuel is for their own use. Checking up on interstate shipments of gasoline, including barge shipments on rivers that serve as state dividing lines, presents another difficulty.

In order to prevent refunds and exemptions from absorbing too large a portion of gasoline tax revenues, gasoline tax administrators must work out more stringent check-ups on the accuracy of claims and evidence of collusion, the report said. A step in this direction has been taken in 13 northeastern states which, as members of the North American Gasoline Tax Conference, have developed a uniform system of reporting on interstate gasoline shipments. The federal government aids in this interstate clearance of information by supplying notice of movements of motor fuel or oil from a producing state to other states.

Purposes Of Municipal Bonds Changed Since 1929

The purposes for which municipal bonds are issued have changed greatly since 1929, information to the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada showed today.

The issuance of local revenue and refunding bonds has increased sharply since 1929, while road and school bonds have been issued by the cities in lessening amounts, according to a report by a Chicago bond house.

Revenue bonds in 1929 amounted to only .73 per cent of the total bonds issued by the municipalities for the year, and refunding bonds amounted to 1.3 per cent. On the other hand, road bonds totaled 16 per cent and school bonds 15.6 per cent of the total bonds issued.

The picture changed during the next 10 years, however, and in 1939 municipal revenue bonds totaled 12.6 per cent of all local bond issues, while refunding bonds comprised 22.5 per cent of the total. Meanwhile, road bonds dropped during the 10-year period to 6.3 per cent, and school bonds to 6.8 per cent of all bonds issued.

The report said that municipal relief bonds, of which there were no issues in 1929, totaled \$66,118,000 last year.

The increased use of revenue bonds has been due to tax limitations, debt limits and the desire to participate in federal projects, according to the report. Road bond issues were smaller in 1939 because of pay-as-you-go financing through gasoline taxes and federal relief expenditures. The Association said that from April, 1935, to Jan. 1, 1940, more than \$3,000,000,000 was spent from federal emergency relief appropriations for highways, roads, streets, etc.

The refunding was due largely to favorable rates for refunding bonds, before maturity, the report said. While loans for school construction have declined, the amount of construction may be nearly normal due to federal aid through the Public Works Administration and the Work Projects Administration.

The relief bonds and about \$50,000,000 of funding bonds reflect that part of the cities relief costs not paid from current revenues.

Criminal Identification Police - Communication

Transmission Of Evidence By Wire An Important Development In Police Field

Three developments in the law enforcement field--the facsimile transmission of evidence and fingerprints by wire, the use of regular motor vehicle licenses by law enforcement agencies, and an improvement in selective enforcement of traffic regulations--were reported today by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Photographs and fingerprints, to be used for the prompt identification of criminals, now can be sent by telegraph from one police department to another, the Association reported. This service is not yet general, but is in use between New York and Buffalo, and New York and Chicago.

The use of regular motor vehicle license plates by police cars in California, instead of special plates that disclosed the identity of all police cars to criminals, was reported by the Association. Formerly, motor vehicles used by police officers were required to carry "exempt" license plates. The change to regular license plates is especially useful to detective bureaus and other branches of state or local police agencies engaged in work requiring secrecy.

Indiana's state police department, in order to apply selective traffic law enforcement methods, has developed the use of mechanical tabulators in the study and analysis of their enforcement activities. The tabulators, formerly used to check on the location of accidents only, now are employed to record the arrests made and warnings issued by the various state police posts.

By comparing law enforcement activities with accident totals for each section of the state or of highways, the state police department can see which sections are getting the best results, and in which sections selective enforcement methods should be put into effect. The Indiana department is the first to use mechanical tabulation so extensively.

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Three States, New York City Exempt Essential Foods From Sales Tax

Three of the 23 states imposing sales taxes exempt foodstuffs from this tax, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today. These states are California, North Carolina and Ohio. In addition, New York City exempts foodstuffs from its city sales tax.

The Federation said about a dozen states exempt farm and dairy products from sales taxation when these products are sold by the producer to the consumer in the natural condition. These states include Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah and Wyoming.

Arkansas refunds sales taxes paid on food bought by hospitals and sanitariums, and food distributed by governmental agencies to the poor or to public penal and charitable institutions.

Washington, which formerly exempted from sales taxation such essential foods as bread, milk and eggs, withdrew the exemption last year, the Federation reported.

* * *

Accidents, Traffic - Prevention

Youths Arrested Less Often Than Their Elders For Drunken Driving

Youths are arrested less often on drunken driving charges than their elders, information from the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today.

Only three of the 41 cities of more than 100,000 population surveyed recently reported that the majority of drivers arrested for drunkenness were under 25 years, according to the Association. In one of the cities--Detroit--the average age of persons arrested for drunken driving last year was 38.1 years.

Police authorities in 19 of the cities reported an average decrease of 19.3 per cent in the number of arrests for drunken driving among all age groups in 1939 as compared with 1938. San Antonio estimated its reduction at 95.9 per cent, according to the survey made by the Aetna Life Affiliated companies.

* * *

Department of Tax Administration reported today. These figures are preliminary.

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Only three of the 48 states of more than 100,000 population surveyed reported that the majority of drivers arrested for drunkenness were under 21 years of age. In one of the states--Detroit--the average age of those arrested for drunken driving last year was 36.1 years.

Police authorities in 19 of the cities reported an average decrease of 19.3

JOINT REFERENCE

155 Cities Use Parking Meters To Regulate Parking In Congested Areas

At least 155 American cities now use parking meters to regulate parking in congested business and residential areas, the International City Managers' Association reported today. Approximately \$3,470,000 was obtained from meters in 1939 by 102 of the cities--those reporting revenue figures to the Association.

The report, to be published soon in the 1940 Municipal Year Book, shows increases in the use of parking meters since 1935, when Oklahoma City made the original installation. Dallas and El Paso also adopted the meters that year.

Since then, the use of parking meters has grown rapidly. Seventeen cities installed them in 1936, 29 cities in 1937, 35 in 1938, 55 in 1939, and 16 cities during the first two months of 1940. Four cities--Topeka, Kan., Bristol, Va., and Lubbock and Tyler, Tex.--reinstalled parking meters after having once abandoned them. Meters have been abandoned completely by nine cities, however.

Besides regulating parking, the parking meter is an important source of revenue to many cities, the report said. The 102 cities reporting revenue figures for 1939 took in approximately \$290,000 a month, or about \$2,844 a month per city. The report pointed out that the number of meters used varies greatly from city to city, however, and that the income may be a considerable sum in cities using a large number of meters. Houston, Tex., with 3,869 meters, reported more than \$260,000 in revenue for 1939, while Washington, D.C., a much larger city, received about \$38,000 from 300 meters.

Parking meters operate generally on a nickel charge for 30 minutes to two hours' parking time--depending usually on the type of district in which the meter is located. New developments are the penny and the accumulative penny and nickel meter, the report said. Penny meters usually permit parking for 15 minutes, and a motorist frequently can deposit several pennies for several such periods. Salt Lake City has both penny and nickel accumulative meters, and a motorist may insert one to four pennies for 12 minutes each, or one or two nickels for one hour's parking each.

The 155 cities use either automatic meters, which predominate in the 29 cities of over 100,000 population, or manual meters, which predominate in the 126 cities under 100,000 population. An analysis of per meter revenue reports shows that revenue per automatic meter is 15 per cent higher than revenue per manual meter. The Association said this was consistent with experience in several cities which have had both types of meters. In one city, a change from manual to automatic meters increased revenues about 30 per cent. This was due probably to the fact that in using the hand-operated meter, motorists will fail, accidentally or intentionally, to turn the handle after inserting the coin, and park over the specified time. Police find it difficult to issue over-parking tags because they cannot tell when the car was parked. However, a study of installations made in the 16 cities this year fails to show any clear preference. Eight cities ordered each type, although the two largest cities installed automatic meters.

Airport officials
Airport Manager Salaries Range From \$600 To \$166 Monthly In 28 Cities

Salaries ranging from \$600 down to \$166 a month are paid municipal airport managers in 28 cities covered in a report today by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada. The survey was made of cities with extensive airport activity, rather than cities of a particular population group.

In addition to paying salaries, many of the surveyed cities furnish living quarters for their airport managers, and grant them the use of city automobiles or allowances for their own automobiles, according to the report.

Four of the 28 cities--Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco--pay their airport managers \$500 a month or more, the Association said. Cleveland's manager receives \$600 monthly. Boston pays its airport manager \$416 a month--the only other city of the group paying more than \$350.

Managers of airports for seven cities receive from \$300 to \$350 a month. The lower salary is paid city airport managers in Atlanta, Cincinnati, Jacksonville, Louisville and Toledo. Birmingham and Chicago pay \$350 and \$325 a month respectively.

Salaries paid by the remaining 16 cities average about \$225 a month. Eight cities pay salaries above, and seven below this average. The other city, Fort Worth, pays \$225.

Living quarters--either homes or apartments--with monthly rental values ranging from \$60 to \$25 are furnished by 10 cities, the survey showed. Birmingham furnishes its airport manager with living quarters valued at \$60 a month, while Atlanta, Chicago, Fort Worth and San Antonio furnish quarters worth \$50 a month.

Municipal airport managers are allowed the use of city automobiles in eight cities--Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Indianapolis, Oakland, Sacramento and St. Paul, according to the Association.

Allowances ranging from \$10 to \$50 a month are granted for the use of private automobiles by 10 cities--Atlanta, Birmingham, Cleveland, Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Louisville, Oklahoma, Portland, Syracuse and Toledo, the Association said. Cleveland grants its manager 5 cents a mile when on city business, while the Syracuse airport manager receives gasoline and oil, averaging \$15 a month, for the use of his private automobile.

Several other cities reported to the Association that their airports were not under city management. Richmond has leased its municipal airport to the Richmond Air Transport & Sales Corporation at an annual rental of \$600 plus 25 cents for each passenger entering or leaving the port. North Platte has leased its airport to United Air Lines.

In addition to paying salaries, many of the surveyed cities furnish living allowances for their own automobiles, according to the report.

Four of the 26 cities--Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco--pay only a fixed amount with a limit on the number of miles that can be driven. The others receive \$600 monthly. Boston pays the airport manager \$416 a month--the only other city of the group paying more than \$350.

Managers of airports for seven cities receive from \$500 to \$750 a month. The remaining 19 cities average about \$225 a month. Eight cities pay salaries ranging from \$100 to \$250 a month. The remaining 16 cities average about \$225 a month. Eight cities pay salaries ranging from \$100 to \$250 a month. The remaining 16 cities average about \$225 a month.

Living quarters--either homes or apartments--with monthly rental values ranging from \$10 to \$50 are furnished in 10 cities. In 10 cities the airport manager with living quarters valued at \$40 a month, while in 16 cities, Fort Worth and San Antonio furnish quarters worth \$50 a month. Municipal airport managers are allowed the use of city automobiles in eight cities. In 10 cities, according to the Association.

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Taxation - Exemption Homesteads

Income, Sales, Other Taxes Replace Lost "Homestead" Revenue

Most of the 13 states with homestead exemption and preferential property tax laws are attempting to replace revenues lost through such concessions with revenues from state income, sales, liquor, public utility and intangibles taxes, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today. Where local governments of these states also suffer loss because of the exemptions, replacement is being sought through municipal sales and gasoline taxes, license fees, or local property tax increases.

All of the laws which either exempt homesteads or grant them preferential tax rates were enacted between 1933 and 1938, although a few revisions have been made since. Some of the exemptions are from both state and local taxes, while others are from state taxes only.

These are sample replacement plans in the various states:

Alabama, where state property tax revenue decreased \$1,000,000 after the exemption law went into effect, levies a 2 per cent "luxury" or sales tax, which replaces the amount lost to the public school fund.

Wyoming takes \$300,000 annually from the state sales tax to reimburse municipalities, counties and school districts, which formerly secured that revenue from the property tax.

Oklahoma assumes exemption losses to school districts. In the localities, as a result of the exemption, average property tax rates went up from \$1.97 to \$2.24 per \$100 assessed valuation, and the aggregate tax levy increased 2.45 per cent, with the non-exempt property bearing the brunt of the cost.

Another effect of preferential taxes and exemptions on homes has been the transfer of governmental functions from local to state jurisdictions, the Federation said.

In West Virginia, state aid to schools was increased from \$1,000,000 to \$11,000,000 when the reduced tax rate on homesteads cut local government revenues. The state also took over construction of secondary roads in addition to main highways.

In Iowa and Louisiana, special funds are set up from proceeds of replacement taxes--income, sales, liquor and public utility--and the extent to which home owners are relieved from property taxes depends upon the financial condition of these funds.

A noticeable drop in property assessment values took place in many of the states following adoption of the homestead exemption and preferential tax laws, the Federation said. A drop of 16 to 20 per cent occurred in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi. In Louisiana and Oklahoma, the decrease amounted to nearly 10 per cent.

Most of the 15 states with homestead exemption and preferential property

tax rates were enacted between 1935 and 1938, although a few revisions have been made since. Some of the exemptions are from both state and local taxes, while others are from state taxes only.

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Cities' Annual Street Cleaning Bill Averages \$437 A Mile

American cities spent an average of \$437 a mile for street cleaning in 1939, according to a sampling survey of 26 cities made by a committee of the American Public Works Association. The total bill for the 26 cities, all with over 100,000 population, amounted to \$19,000,000, according to the report, which soon will be published in the Association's 1940 Public Works Engineers' Yearbook.

The biggest street cleaning bills were reported by New York City and Chicago. With 3,788 miles of streets to clean, New York City paid out \$8,962,328 for cleaning costs, including the wages of 9,680 employees. Chicago, with 3,183 miles of streets, plus about 1,000 miles of alleys, had a cleaning bill of \$1,694,293, hiring 800-odd employees.

The major share of street cleaning appropriations was spent for labor, the report indicated, with wage rates higher in the snowbelt cities than in the South. The rate of pay per hour averaged 34 cents in the far South, and 62 cents in the cities reporting from other parts of the country. Truck drivers in the street cleaning departments averaged 47 cents an hour in the South and 76 cents in the other cities. Several cities, including Detroit, Boston and Minneapolis, said they used relief labor in their street cleaning operations.

Per capita expenditures reported by the 26 cities varied from 23 cents to \$1.20, with an average of 55 cents. The average cleaning by each worker was shown to be 3.35 miles a day.

The cities' street cleaning bills cannot be compared on the basis of total appropriations or per capita amounts, however, since many factors such as standards of cleanliness, purchase of equipment, and differences in wage levels must be considered, according to the report.

"With few exceptions there seems to be insufficient money available in most of the larger cities to enable the maintenance of proper standards of cleanliness," the report said. Of 20 officials commenting on present appropriations, 12 said an increase was needed--in some cases double the current funds.

Twenty-four Cities Show Less Than Five Per Cent Tax Delinquency End Of 1939

While tax delinquencies for 150 of the major cities of the country declined to a "new low" average of 9.2 per cent at the end of 1939, at least 24 cities showed delinquencies of less than 5 per cent, the Municipal Finance Officers' Association noted today from a report by Frederick L. Bird.

The average percentage of taxes still to be collected in these 24 cities at the close of 1939 was only 4.7 per cent.

Ten of the 24 cities with the best tax collection records are in California, three in New York and three in Connecticut, with the others scattered elsewhere in the country. Fresno and San Jose stood at the top of the list, each with one per cent outstanding in current taxes, while San Francisco had 1.3 per cent, according to the report.

The 24 cities with notably low delinquency records were the following:

Fresno, Calif.....	1.0	Peoria, Ill.....	3.4
San Jose, Calif.....	1.0	San Diego, Calif.....	3.5
San Francisco, Calif.....	1.3	Davenport, Ia.....	3.7
Berkeley, Calif.....	1.6	Birmingham, Ala.....	3.8
Oakland, Calif.....	2.1	Niagara Falls, N.Y.....	3.8
Mobile, Ala.....	2.2	Schenectady, N.Y.....	3.9
Sacramento, Calif.....	2.3	Hartford, Conn.....	4.0
Cedar Rapids, Ia.....	2.7	Cincinnati, O.....	4.2
Bridgeport, Conn.....	2.9	Pasadena, Calif.....	4.2
Buffalo, N.Y.....	3.2	Los Angeles, Calif.....	4.4
Long Beach, Calif.....	3.2	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	4.7
Denver, Colo.....	3.3	Waterbury, Conn.....	4.7

A total of 119 of the 150 cities in the report showed a lower percentage of tax delinquency for 1939 than for 1938. The 1939 delinquency record of 9.2 per cent was 1.5 per cent lower than that of 1938, and indicated a general decline compared with 26.3 per cent in 1933, and 10.1 per cent in 1930.

Most of the 31 cities which did not improve their tax collection records last year fell short only by a fraction, according to the report. Eighty-six of the 150 cities reduced their year-end delinquency below the level of 1930.

Tax delinquency records are considered the best barometer of municipal fiscal ability, the Association said.

Personnel Review - 7

Turnover Of Public Officials Since 1935 Shown By Survey

Superintendents of schools, librarians and city clerks hold their jobs longer than any of the other administrative officials of local government, the International City Managers' Association said today in a report on the tenure of local officials.

The largest turnover, the report said, occurs usually in the positions of mayor, health officer, director of public works, chief finance officer and chief of police, in that order.

The report, covering 11 chief administrative offices of all cities of more than 10,000 population, shows there was a turnover of 17.3 per cent in these positions in 1939. The turnover in 1937 and 1935 was 18.9 and 19.7 per cent respectively. In the even-numbered years, the turnover was somewhat lower--15.5 per cent in 1938 and 14.1 per cent in 1936.

*Police-Selection **

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Personnel, Public-Administration*

Two California Agencies Cooperate In Police Examinations

Dividing effort and expense, the Los Angeles City and County Civil Service commissions recently examined 3,289 candidates for deputy sheriff and police jobs in both their areas, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

The experiment is expected to show that civil service agencies may save time and money by cooperating on examinations, according to California officials.

In giving the tests, each jurisdiction prepared certain parts, the county agency supervised their administration, and the city agency scored them. Both agencies, as well as outside authorities from the police field, were represented in the general qualifications appraisal board.

A total of 3,853 persons applied to take the two examinations. Of that number, 1,189 filed for positions with the county only, 1,537 with the city only, and 1,127 for both jurisdictions.

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Two California Agencies Cooperate In Police Examinations

Dividing effort and expense, the Los Angeles City and County Civil Service
Commission recently examined 3,325 candidates for deputy sheriff and police jobs in
the state, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported.

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the two agencies in cooperation with the state police department, the Los Angeles City and County Civil Service Commission and the California State Police Department. The experiment is expected to show that civil service agencies may have

A total of 3,325 persons applied to take the two examinations. Of these
persons, 1,937 were from the county only, 1,387 from the city only,

APR 11 1940

LIBRARY

322 Municipal Or City-County Hospitals Operated By 265 American Cities

More than 322 accredited municipal hospitals are owned and operated by 265 American cities, the International City Managers' Association said today in a report to be published soon in the 1940 Municipal Year Book.

Operated as local governmental services, the hospitals have a total of about 80,000 beds and admit more than 1,200,000 patients a year. The Association said 55 of the 322 hospitals are operated jointly by cities and counties, and that all are registered by the American Medical Association.

In classifying the hospitals, the report listed 249 as "general," 38 as "tuberculosis," 14 as "isolation," and four as "tuberculosis isolation." The remainder are classified as to special type of service rendered---emergency, maternity or convalescent. Only two cities---New York and Atlanta---operate cancer hospitals.

Of the total number of municipal hospitals, New York City operates 20, or nearly half of the 48 owned by cities of more than 500,000 population. Fourteen of New York City's hospitals are general. St. Louis and Pittsburgh, with five and four hospitals respectively, follow New York City. City hospitals are owned by 18 cities in the 200-500,000 population class, by 24 cities in the 100-200,000 class, 41 cities in the 30-100,000 class, 50 cities in the 10-30,000 class, 50 cities in the 5-10,000 class, and by 60 cities of less than 5,000 population.

The average number of beds per hospital varies greatly according to population groups, the report said. The 48 hospitals owned by the 12 cities of more than 500,000 population average 946 beds per hospital, with the average becoming smaller in the lower population groups. The 60 hospitals owned by cities of less than 5,000 population average 74 beds per hospital.

Although the majority of municipal hospitals have been built since 1900---42 of these since 1930---a few cities have been operating hospitals for more than two centuries. Philadelphia's general hospital was established in 1732, and four years later New York City established Bellevue hospital---one of the best known of city hospitals. One of Cleveland's city hospitals was established in 1837. Of the total, about 75 municipal hospitals began operation before 1900.

The report showed that 29 of the hospitals are approved for general internship training, 31 have accredited schools of nursing, and 39 are approved for both internship and schools of nursing.

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all are registered by the American Medical Association.

In classifying the hospitals, the report stated 216 as "general," 56 as
"specialized," 14 as "isolation," and four as "subacute isolation." The
remainder are classified as to special type of service rendered--emergency

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In the lower population groups, the report said. The 48 hospitals owned by the 18 cities of more
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ship training, 31 have accredited schools of nursing, and 29 are approved for

Jobless Act Amendments Proposed In Current Legislative Sessions

Proposals for unemployment compensation amendments are most numerous among the social welfare bills under consideration by state legislatures in session this year, a survey by the American Public Welfare Association showed today. Bills on financing, old age assistance, and general relief are running second, third and fourth in number.

Only a few bills have been introduced in connection with aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, child welfare, and plans for medical care, health insurance and hospital service, according to the survey.

Several of the unemployment compensation measures deal with merit-rating systems, under which employers who keep on a steady force of workers are credited in terms of reduced contribution rates. An amendment of this type has been approved in Virginia, and one awaits the governor's signature in New York. Other amendments proposed in the various states are designed to shorten waiting periods for employee-benefits, enlarge benefits, and extend coverage to workers hired by the "small employer."

Most of the public welfare bills which have reached enactment refer to financing, the survey showed. Major measures are for financing relief by either outright appropriation, bond issues, new levies or the extension of existing levies.

Among the old age assistance amendments enacted are several that ease or abolish the requirements of several states which have hitherto held liens or claims on the income or property--above certain minimum amounts--of those receiving aid. Amendments of this kind have been enacted in California, Kentucky and Nebraska, with California passing a constitutional amendment under which all such claims are relinquished by the state. Kentucky, in addition, has revamped its 1936 old age assistance act, increasing the monthly grant from \$15 to \$30.

Kentucky also has provided for aid to the needy blind and to dependent children, bringing to 41 the number of states administering such aid in cooperation with the federal government.

Laws to enable local governments to cooperate with the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation on the food stamp plan for supplementing direct relief have been enacted by Rhode Island and Mississippi. Rhode Island includes the cotton stamp plan for clothing aid as well.

State legislatures now meeting are Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island and South Carolina, in regular session. Illinois will meet in special session later in the month. The Kentucky, New York and Virginia legislatures have adjourned regular sessions; Louisiana and Nebraska had brief "specials." On May 13, Louisiana will meet in regular session and California will reconvene a special session called earlier this year. Alabama is recessed until June 25.

Smokeless fuel - Ordinance

Strict Smoke Ordinance Adopted In St. Louis

A new smoke prevention ordinance in St. Louis which makes mandatory the use of smokeless fuels or mechanical firing equipment that will burn fuel without smoke is one of the most drastic attacks made by any city on the smoke problem to date, the American Municipal Association said today.

The ordinance contains a provision, hitherto not found in municipal smoke legislation, which empowers the city, after declaring an emergency, to purchase smokeless fuel in wholesale lots and distribute it to consumers if an adequate supply cannot be secured through commercial coal dealers.

St. Louis, like 80 or more cities in the large-population class, has had a smoke prevention ordinance for a number of years. Most of these municipal ordinances specify varying densities and amounts of smoke emission allowable from house chimneys, industrial smokestacks, and boats and locomotives. Smoke density is usually measured by a chart which enables grading by the shade of smoke. Most of the cities permit smoke emission periods of six minutes an hour, and the ordinances are in the nature of abatement rather than elimination measures.

The new smoke ordinance in St. Louis requires smokeless fuel in hand-fired and surface-burning furnaces. Such fuel is defined as containing less than 23 per cent volatile matter. Sale of any fuel containing more than 12 per cent ash or 2 per cent sulphur on a dry basis is prohibited in the city. Smoke emission time for locomotives is shortened from six minutes to one continuous minute in any hour.

A special committee on smoke elimination worked for a year before presenting the report that resulted in the St. Louis smoke ordinance. In requiring smokeless fuel, the committee expressed the hope that restrictions on the use of unprocessed high volatile coals would create a large market for smokeless fuels, and thus make possible a reduction in their price.

St. Louis burns yearly about 6,000,000 tons of coal, of which more than 5,000,000 tons are bituminous or soft coal mined mainly in southern Illinois. Research tests showed that the soft coal could be processed into a non-smoke producing fuel, or that mechanical equipment would take care of the combustion to avoid smoke.

The biggest problem of municipalities with smoke abatement ordinances is careless burning of fuel, according to a survey of 80 cities cited by the Association. Lack of proper fuel-burning equipment, lack of information on firing, and poor fuel were given by a third or more of these cities as reasons for difficulty in enforcing their ordinances. Many of the cities, also, reported small appropriations for smoke control, some none at all. St. Louis, which previously had spent approximately \$40,000 a year for smoke prevention activities, will probably need an increase in appropriation, according to local reports, since a larger staff is demanded for enforcement of the new ordinance.

Zoning Ordinances - 1

Evanston Zoning Ordinance Revised Completely For Second Time

To keep abreast of local planning developments, the city council of Evanston, Ill., has revised completely its city zoning ordinance for the second time since 1921--when the first Evanston zoning ordinance was adopted.

The revision was made in an effort to adapt the ordinance to conditions which have changed since 1927--when the first complete revision was made--and to developments which the city council thinks may appear in the future.

The new Evanston zoning ordinance reduces by 20 per cent the amount of land zoned for commercial purposes, and by 50 per cent the area zoned for multiple-dwellings or apartment houses, according to the American Society of Planning Officials.

Single-family homes, under the new ordinance, must be built on larger lots. The revision increased the area required for a home in the "A" zone from 4,300 to 7,200 square feet, and in the "B" zone to 5,000 square feet.

The new ordinance also creates a new district in which two-family and row houses may be constructed, and requires apartment buildings, row houses and theaters to provide off-street parking facilities--one parking space for every two dwelling units, or for every 10 theater seats.

The Society said other cities besides Evanston are bringing their zoning ordinances up to date, although few by such complete revision. These cities include New York City, Los Angeles, Portland, Ore., and Des Moines.

Des Moines city planning officials decided to draft a new zoning ordinance after a survey showed, in part, that the city's residence districts as now zoned are large enough for the city of Memphis or Indianapolis; that multiple-dwelling districts are large enough to accommodate apartment buildings in a city of nearly 2,000,000 people; and that there is enough area zoned for commerce to supply Minneapolis.

Such over-zoning developed years ago, when over-optimistic city officials and civic organizations had their municipalities zoned on the theory that the expansion in city growth then occurring would continue. However, most municipal expansions did not come up to expectations, the Society said. Many cities now find they have large areas zoned for commercial or business purposes which cannot be used economically for business purposes; nor can they be used as residential districts because property owners will not construct residences in areas zoned for business. It is to remedy such situations that cities are now studying their zoning ordinances with thoughts toward revision--complete revision, as in Evanston, or gradual revision, as in Los Angeles, Portland or New York City.

Assessors

Single Assessors Total 19,300; Boards, 3,600, In Primary Assessment Districts

Single assessors have the job of appraising property for taxes in about 19,300 local assessment districts in the United States, while the work is carried on by a board of two or more members in about 3,600 districts, a survey by the National Association of Assessing Officers showed today.

The survey was made in connection with a study of the organization of assessment offices, which will be published, with recommendations, later this year.

In addition to these 23,000 assessment agencies in the primary assessment districts, there are well over 2,000 individual assessors and more than 500 boards of assessors serving overlapping assessment districts--such as cities which have their own separate organizations for municipal taxation despite the fact that they lie within a county assessment district.

A majority of the assessment boards--probably as many as 90 per cent--have three members, the survey showed. The next most common number is five, found in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the primary districts which have boards. The largest board--51 members--serves a school district in Horry county, South Carolina. Altogether, there are nearly 35,000 assessors in the United States, exclusive of deputy assessors and other subordinates.

The system of single-assessor districts is found in 30 states, while in a number of the other states single-assessor as well as assessing-board plans are found, according to the survey.

Syracuse, N.Y., recently replaced a four-member agency with a single assessor, while Menasha, Wis., supplanted a two-member agency working part-time by one full-time assessor. In several cities, on the other hand, assessment boards have been increased in size.

The duties of assessing vary somewhat from one assessment office to another, but particularly from one state to another, the report said. All local assessment offices assess real property, while all except those in three states assess tangible personal property, and those in about half the states assess intangibles. Assessors often make the enumeration for the poll tax, and sometimes help administer other local taxes. Some assessors perform minor duties outside the tax field, principally the gathering of farm crop statistics.

Traffic Lines

Home-Made Painting Machine Makes Traffic Lines More Visible, Saves Paint

Better visibility of traffic lines and a saving in the amount of paint used have resulted from the use of a "home-made" painting machine, St. Louis street and traffic officials reported today to the American Public Works Association. The paint machine, mounted on a truck, was designed and constructed by the traffic section of the St. Louis Department of Streets and Sewers.

Before the machine was placed in use, center-line markings consisted of a single, hand-painted stripe six inches wide. The paint machine lays down three stripes, each one-and-a-half inches in width, with a three-quarter inch spacing between stripes. St. Louis officials say the three parallel lines give better visibility to motorists than do the broader single stripes, and save about 25 per cent in the amount of paint used.

More than 85 miles of center lines are machine-painted each year in St. Louis, and between 25 and 30 gallons of paint--a white lacquer especially prepared by the department--are used for each mile of striping. The cost of labor per mile for machine-painting is between \$3.50 and \$4, St. Louis officials said. Cross-walk lines are hand-painted.

The durability of the paint markings on the various types of pavement surfaces in St. Louis varies considerably, it is reported. Traffic paint wears longest on a skid-resistant pavement--an open-type asphaltic concrete surface--developed a few years ago by the St. Louis Department of Streets and Sewers.

The department reported recently that paint lasts only 80 per cent as long on sheet asphalt surfaces as on the skid-resistant pavement, 45 per cent as long on Portland cement concrete, 40 per cent as long on brick, and 25 per cent as long on granite block pavement.

* * *

Year-Round Parking Privileges Offered For One Dollar

Year-round parking privileges may be obtained by citizens of Rockville Center, N.Y.--and at a cost of only one dollar.

Upon payment of the \$1, the motorists receive a metal tag from the city, which allows them four hours' parking time, every day in the year, in the municipal parking lots.

The year-round parking plan was started in an effort to check congestion in the Rockville Center business district, according to the International City Managers' Association.

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in the downtown business district, according to the International City

Six Illinois Cities Cooperate On Milk Inspection

A cooperative milk-inspection plan which has won top rating by the United States Public Health Service for six Chicago suburbs is benefiting them in terms of money savings as well as effective milk control, according to a report from the International City Managers' Association today.

Winnetka, Ill., largest of the suburbs, performs the inspection service for the municipalities, all of which lie north of Chicago. The other towns cooperating in the plan are Glencoe, Highland Park, Kenilworth, Lake Bluff and Lake Forest.

These six communities, with 10 others, are the only communities in the country which have both 100 per cent-pasteurized milk, and a "compliance" rating of 90 per cent or more with the Grade A pasteurized milk requirements of the federal health service. The other 10 are Elgin, Evanston and Waukegan, Ill.; Albert Lea, Rochester and Winona, Minn.; St. Louis, Mo.; and Clinton, Fort Bragg and Tarboro, N.C.

Before the cooperative inspection was adopted, the report said, a large proportion of the milk and milk products sold in the six municipalities came from farms and dairies within the area, not subject to the inspection and control of any health authority. Separate inspection by the cities had been tried, but it cost too much and resulted in a lack of uniformity of standards.

As the first step in developing the cooperative inspection plan, each of the towns enacted the milk inspection ordinance recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service. Winnetka, the only one of the towns with a full-time health officer, undertook to contract for the inspection on an annual basis. The contract requires the officer to collect at least one sample of pasteurized milk and cream each month from a delivery truck of each dairy, to determine its bacterial content and butter fat, and to inspect all pasteurization plants monthly, and farms at least three times a year.

Thirteen milk plants and 340 farms are now under the direct inspection of the health officer and his two assistants. Farms are inspected on an average every 60 days, and plants every 30 days--oftener than the contract demands.

The cost of the inspection service is shared by the towns, which have a total population of 41,000. For the year ending June 30, 1940, the budgeted cost per capita is slightly more than 15 cents.

A cooperative milk-inspection plan which has won top rating by the United States Public Health Service for its efficiency and benefit to the people of Wisconsin is being adopted by the International City Managers' Association today.

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There are six communities, with 10 others, and the only communities in the country which have both 100 per cent-pasteurized milk, and a "complete" rating of 100 per cent or more with the Grade A pasteurized milk requirements of the Federal health service. The other 10 are Elgin, Evanston and Waukegan, Ill.; Albion, Ind.; Chester and Monroe, Minn.; St. Louis, Mo.; and Clinton, Fort Dodge and Des Moines, Iowa.

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The plan was enacted the milk inspection ordinance recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service. Winnetka, the only one of the towns with a full-time health officer, is the only town to collect at least one sample of pasteurized milk and cream each week for delivery truck of each dairy, to determine the bacterial content and butter fat.

Inspect all pasteurization plants monthly, and farms at least three times a year.

Twelve milk plants and 340 farms are now under the direct inspection of the health officer and his two assistants. Farms are inspected on an average every 60 days.

Thumb-Prints Of Pawnbrokers' Customers Aid Police

The new Indianapolis city ordinance requiring pawnbrokers to thumb-print customers before making loans on merchandise has led to the arrest of many known criminals and the recovery of much stolen property, a report to the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The customer's right thumb-print is placed on a special card that is used to record not only the article on which the loan is made, but the description of the person pledging the article, and his signature and address. These cards must be turned over to the police by the pawnbroker before noon of the day following the transaction.

"Since the ordinance went into effect, the department has made 46 arrests attributed to the thumb-print identification," the report said. "In addition to aiding in the recovery of much stolen property, arrests due to thumb-prints have cleared up a number of burglaries, robberies and larcenies.

"In the event we find stolen property in a pawnshop and have no record of the person whose print appears on the pawn card, the card is immediately filed in our identification bureau for further check and reference. If a person is picked up for any charge, his prints are checked against these cards, and several cases have been cleared up in this manner."

The report said the pawnshop detail of the Indianapolis police visits all pawnshops several times a day, and checks the articles taken in against the description given on the cards to verify serial numbers and other data.

"We have found this method very effective, inasmuch as we have an immediate check on stolen property almost as soon as it is placed in a pawnshop," the report said. "The fact that the detail visits these shops a number of times during the day also gives the men opportunity to look over persons in the places who are in the act of pawning goods. A number of arrests have been made as a result of this constant vigilance."

The report said that a similar ordinance is being prepared to extend the same regulation to secondhand stores, junk shops and all other types of stores where secondhand articles and property of every description is received, including property traded in on new or other secondhand merchandise.

In upholding the constitutionality of the ordinance recently, the Indiana state supreme court gave as one reason that the provision regarding thumb-prints does not transgress upon personal liberty, and that the measure has a direct relationship to the detection of crime and therefore is not arbitrary or unreasonable.

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1 Parking - Legislation

California Cities Find "Absentee Parking Tag" Law Helpful

California's "absentee parking tag" law, which makes an automobile owner liable for parking violations regardless of who has parked his car, is providing six cities with a better check on erring motorists, a report to the American Municipal Association said today.

Before the law was passed, it was necessary for the police officer personally to "tag" overparking violators, and secure their signatures on the citation. Traffic tags placed on cars without personal presentation to the driver frequently were ignored or torn up, according to the report.

Under the new "prima facie" statute, which became effective in September, 1939, proof that the vehicle was parked in violation of the law, and that the defendant was the registered owner, is prima facie evidence that the registered owner was the one who parked illegally. The police officer now can tag the overtime-parked vehicle, and have a notice sent to the registered owner to appear in court. If he fails to appear, a warrant is sent out for his arrest.

While the increased number of citations calls for a large amount of clerical work and sometimes overfills the courts, the cities expressed general satisfaction with the prima facie law as a means of controlling illegal parking, according to the League of California Cities, which made the report. Results were gathered from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland, Berkeley, Sacramento and San Diego.

The San Francisco police department started an intensive drive to clear up traffic congestion in the downtown section when the new law went into effect. As a result, 45,000 tags were issued in one month for all types of traffic violations, about half of which depended for validity on the new section of the vehicle code. Few warrants of arrest have been necessary.

In Los Angeles, up to February 9, 1940, a total of 56,844 citations had passed through the police department. More than 60 per cent of the offenders came into the fines bureau of the municipal court, deposited, and then forfeited without appearance, bail of \$2 to \$3. Warrants were issued in only 3,005 cases.

Oakland has issued around 3,500 tags a month, with about 20 per cent resulting in bail deposits, and another 20 per cent demanding warrants. Berkeley reported that 4,578 traffic tags issued during the first five months brought all but 282 parking offenders into the station. Warrants had to be issued in only 93 of the 282 cases.

In four months, Sacramento issued a total of 3,767 tags and 161 warrants. San Diego reported an average of 1,950 citations monthly to motorists, approximately 75 per cent of whom posted bail within five days. Notices mailed to the remainder drew about 60 per cent response, and an average of only 50 warrants were issued each month.

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as with a better check on driving motorists, a report to the American Motorist
station said today.
Before the law was passed, it was necessary for the police officers personally

to place on cars without personal presentation to the driver present in order to
turn up, according to the report.
Under the new "bums buster" statute, which became effective on January 1, 1939,
proof that the vehicle was parked in violation of the law, and that the
owner was the registered owner, is prima facie evidence that the registered owner
is the one who parked illegally. The police officer now can take the vehicle
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In four months, Sacramento's issued a total of 3,500 citations, and the city
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pooled bail within five days. Notices called to the registered
owner, and an average of only 20 warrants were issued each

Municipal Fire Protection Cost \$3.71 Per Person In 1939

Cities of the United States hired 1.39 firemen per 1,000 population in 1939 and spent \$152,671,437--\$3.02 per person--for their salaries, according to a survey in the 1940 Municipal Year Book issued today by the International City Managers' Association. Other fire department expenses amounted to 69 cents per capita in the 570 cities of more than 10,000 population included in the survey.

Although the cities of moderate size tend to have more firemen per capita, there is little relationship between the size of fire departments and the size of the cities they serve, the survey showed. Cities over 500,000 population, for example, report 1.37 firemen per 1,000 persons, while cities of 100,000-200,000 report 1.49 firemen per thousand. New York City reported the largest number of firemen--11,101--with Chicago, 2,916, and Philadelphia, 2,224, coming next.

Comparisons between the personnel figures of individual cities are to be made with caution, the survey said, since the amount of property to be protected, the area of the city, and the kinds of risks involved vary greatly among cities of the same size.

Half the smallest communities pay their firemen starting salaries of \$1,492 or more; while half the largest cities offer starting pay of \$1,825 or more. Typical top salaries range from \$1,620 in the smallest cities to \$2,310 in the largest. These salaries are comparable to salaries of policemen in cities of the same size. Typical salaries of fire chiefs vary from \$2,100 in the smaller cities to \$6,500 in the larger ones, and are generally comparable to those of police chiefs.

The fire department is one of nine factors considered by the National Board of Fire Underwriters and other rating agencies in grading municipal fire defenses. It represents 30 per cent of the total possible number of "points of deficiency" which fix the classification of the city--Class I to Class X--for fire insurance rates. Property owners in cities with extreme deficiency rating--Class X--pay the highest fire insurance premium rates.

In 1939, according to the survey, 25 cities of over 30,000 population were regraded by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Eight of these cities received reductions in the total number of points of deficiency, but in only three cases was the reduction large enough to put the city in a more desirable class. These cities were Lexington, Ky., Portland, Ore., and Tacoma, Wash.

Local Governments Of 26 States Assess Intangibles For Back Taxes

Difficulties in locating intangible property for taxation have led 26 states to "protect" their local governments by granting them the right to back-tax intangibles once they are discovered and placed on the tax rolls. Intangible property includes mortgages, bank deposits, stocks and bonds.

The back-taxing laws are considered protection because intangibles are extremely hard to find if they are not listed voluntarily, and high tax rates discourage voluntary disclosure, the National Association of Assessing Officers said today. In many instances, intangible property which escaped the local tax rolls is not discovered until an estate is probated.

Because of these conditions, the local governments may assess untaxed intangibles on a retroactive basis--for all, or for a certain number of years prior to discovery.

The time limit on back-taxing allowed by laws of 20 of the states ranges from one year in New Jersey to 15 years in Mississippi. Between these extremes, time limits are two years in Ohio, Texas and California; three years in Maine, Virginia, Florida, Tennessee, Louisiana, Minnesota and Montana; five years in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Alabama, Iowa, Texas and New Mexico; seven years in Georgia; and 10 years in Kentucky.

Variations of the fixed time limit policy are used in Wyoming and Illinois. In Wyoming, unlisted intangibles may be back-taxed from discovery to the time of the last transfer in ownership, but not for more than five years. Intangibles may be back-taxed in Illinois to the last transfer in ownership, regardless of the number of years.

Untaxed intangibles may be back-taxed in Idaho and South Dakota from the time of discovery as far back as there is a record of ownership. But in Indiana and Oklahoma, where new intangibles tax laws were enacted recently, owners of intangibles are encouraged to list them for the new tax by the promise that they will be immune from back-taxing. No intangibles can be back-taxed in Indiana for years prior to 1933, or in Oklahoma for years prior to 1940.

Of the remaining 22 states, local governments in six may assess intangibles only for the year they are discovered--whether voluntarily placed on the tax rolls or uncovered by the assessor. In 16 states, intangibles are not locally assessable.

A unique tax, called an "estate penalty tax," is in operation in Connecticut, where intangibles are not ordinarily taxed by localities. Under this tax, property in estates is taxed for any of the five years prior to the owner's death during which it was not listed for taxation. The Association said that revenues to Connecticut from this tax have averaged \$200,000 a year.

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Banks

Bank, Insurance Investments High In Government Securities

Banks and life insurance companies have from one-fourth to one-third of their total assets invested in obligations of federal, state and local governments, according to information from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada today.

A total of 31.3 per cent of the \$59,425,859,000 in assets of some 13,500 federally insured banks was invested in government obligations as of June 30, 1939, the Association said. The investments in U.S. Government securities amounted to \$15,451,684,000, and \$3,141,394,000 was invested in the obligations of state and local governments.

The 49 large legal reserve life insurance companies showed an investment on December 31, 1939, of 26 per cent of their \$26,800,000,000 assets in various types of government securities and loans. A total of \$4,908,000,000 was in U.S. bonds, and \$1,707,000,000 in state, county and municipal bonds, plus \$560,000,000 in Canadian government bonds. The 49 companies have more than doubled their investments in state and local bonds during the past nine years.

This increase in life insurance investments in state and municipal bonds does not signify a proportionate increase in state and municipal debt during the nine-year period, however, according to the Association. The outstanding debt of state and municipal governments in 1931 was \$19,060,000,000, and in 1939, it was \$19,626,000,000, while the federal debt increased from \$27,646,000,000, in 1931 to \$39,892,000,000 in 1939.

* * *
Pontiac Police Write Safety Letters To New Drivers

Pontiac, Mich., first among cities of its size in the 1939 National Traffic Safety Contest, believes in teaching drivers about safety while they're young or new at it, the International City Managers' Association noted today.

When a Pontiac citizen gets his first driver's license, the police department writes a special letter welcoming him as a member of the driving public, and soliciting his cooperation in the observance of traffic and other laws.

* * *

Cooperative House-Building Groups Set Up In Two Minnesota Cities

Cooperative home-building associations, a new type of institution founded with the aid of credit unions, offer St. Paul and Minneapolis families a way to get houses built at lower cost, according to a report from the National Association of Housing Officials.

Credit unions, which are also cooperative associations, organized to bank members' money and lend it to members at low interest rates, play an important part in the plan. Organizers and officers of the housing associations are members of credit unions in the Twin Cities, and the prospective home buyers must also be members.

In both cities, the cooperative house-building associations are obtaining tax-delinquent lots from the local governments at bargain prices. Capital, aside from the 10 per cent to be supplied by the individual home purchaser, will be lent by the Minnesota Credit Union League, and the loan will be protected by Federal Housing Administration mortgage insurance.

The procedure works this way: A prospective home buyer visits the lots owned by the cooperative housing association. If he is interested and has enough capital to pay for 10 per cent of the combined value of the house and lot plus a \$50 charge for incidentals and a \$5 membership fee in the association, he joins the association and submits a formal application to buy a lot. He then has an interview with the architect chosen by the association to handle all design.

Certain efficient "type" house plans based partly on a system of semi-prefabrication have been worked out for the houses, with slight changes possible to meet the applicant's preference. Any considerable variation from the types, however, will raise the cost materially above the \$3,500 to \$5,500 estimates. When working drawings for the house have been finished, the contractor estimates construction costs, the plan is submitted to FHA for the mortgage insurance commitment, and, if it is approved, the association makes a loan and work goes ahead.

Considerable savings over the usual cost of buying lots and building houses are anticipated under the plan because of: (1) the purchase of a large number of lots at one time under advantageous circumstances; (2) a contract for services of the architects for the entire number of houses at a low fee; and (3) the letting of the contract for the construction of all homes to one contractor, who thus may employ quantity purchasing and the most efficient construction methods.

No profit may accrue to any of the members or officers of the housing association. Any savings over original estimates will be returned to the members according to the regular cooperative method of paying dividends. Although the plan is not a completely cooperative housing venture since the houses are not cooperatively owned, "it has unusual possibilities for the production of good housing at low cost," the Association said.

The St. Paul Association, which is starting with 50 houses, is already contracting for construction. The Minneapolis Association, planning 57 houses, has purchased its lots.

PROSPECTIVE HOME-BUILDING GROUPS SET UP IN TWO MINNESOTA CITIES

Two new home-building associations, one in each of the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., have been organized. The Minneapolis group, known as the Minneapolis Home-Building Association, was organized on the 15th inst. and the St. Paul group, known as the St. Paul Home-Building Association, was organized on the 16th inst. Both groups are organized on a non-profit basis and are intended to help home-builders in the Twin Cities.

Credit unions, which are also cooperative associations, organized to bank money, and have been successful in the past, are being organized in the Twin Cities, and the prospective home buyers must also be members.

In both cities, the cooperative home-building associations are obtaining loans from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. The Minneapolis group has obtained a loan of \$100,000 and the St. Paul group has obtained a loan of \$50,000. Both loans will be protected by Federal Home Loan Insurance.

The procedure works this way: A prospective home buyer visits the local association, and the association makes a list of the houses available. The prospective home buyer then makes a formal application to buy a lot. He then has an interview with the association and, if approved, he joins the association and pays a \$5 membership fee. The association then handles all details.

Certain efficient "type" house plans based partly on a system of semi-standardization have been worked out for the houses, with slight changes possible to suit the applicant's preference. The cost of the houses is estimated at \$2,500 to \$3,500. When working out the cost, the association makes a loan and work goes ahead.

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No profit may accrue to any of the members or officers of the housing association. The association will be organized on a non-profit basis and is intended to help home-builders in the Twin Cities.

The St. Paul Home-Building Association, which is starting with 50 houses, is already planning 75 houses, and the Minneapolis Home-Building Association, which is starting with 50 houses, is already planning 75 houses.

Unique Police Organization Gives 880 Emergency Blood Transfusions

Members of a unique Blood Donor Roll organization, sponsored by the New Orleans police department, have given more than 880 emergency blood transfusions since it was founded in January, 1939, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

Seventy-nine transfusions were given at seven New Orleans hospitals in March, 1940, according to the report. During the same month, 82 new volunteers were qualified as potential blood donors; police cars answered 55 calls to take donors to and from hospitals; and approximately 800 telephone calls concerning the organization were handled by the police department.

The Blood Donor Roll was formed by the New Orleans police department at the suggestion of Policeman John Ruiz, secretary of the organization and a police department radio operator. In the course of his work, Ruiz noted the frequency with which he was called upon to broadcast calls to members of the department for volunteers in emergency blood transfusion cases.

Police department officials, realizing that requests for transfusions were becoming too numerous for the department to handle alone, acted on the suggestion and sponsored the Blood Donor Roll. The cooperation of other municipal employes, civic organizations and the general public was sought--and the plan met with immediate success.

Members are enrolled once their blood is tested, typed and found satisfactory. When an emergency call is received by the police department, the Blood Donor Roll is checked, a donor with the requested type of blood is called, and he hurries to the hospital for the transfusion.

In describing the New Orleans organization, the Association pointed out that police departments in other cities also receive many calls for emergency transfusions, and that some of the departments have made arrangements to take care of them. Some police departments turn the requests over to local radio stations to be broadcast, while others make attempts to find donors from within their own ranks. A few police departments have typed the blood of their members, who may be called upon when others in the department need transfusions.

Newer Taxes Replace Principal Sources Of Federal Income Of Thirty Years Ago

A sharp change from reliance on customs duties and liquor taxes to reliance on income and sales levies characterizes the federal tax history of the last thirty years, according to an analysis made by the Federation of Tax Administrators today.

In 1910, the income tax, levied only on corporations, produced only 3 per cent of all federal revenue, according to the analysis. Ten years later, the tax on corporate and personal incomes yielded 69 per cent of all federal tax receipts, and last year it produced 40 per cent--more than any other tax.

Customs revenue, on the other hand, dropped from first to third place among the sources of income between 1910, when it produced 54 per cent of the total revenue, and 1920, when it yielded 6 per cent. In 1930 it was in second place, and last year it stood seventh among the various tax categories, making up 6 per cent of federal collections.

The liquor tax plus the tobacco tax constituted 42 per cent of all federal revenue in 1910, but only 21 per cent in 1939. The government now relies more on other sales taxes, especially those coming from the automobile user through the federal gasoline, motor vehicle, and tire manufacturers' levies.

Payroll, gasoline and liquor taxes, none of which were in effect in 1930, accounted for 28 per cent of federal revenue in 1939.

Among other taxes, the most productive were those on electrical energy, telecommunications, sugar, oils processed, and the corporate capital stock tax.

These levies tended to rise in importance during the past thirty years, whenever additional revenues were needed, the Federation said. In 1920, for example, such miscellaneous levies contributed 18 per cent of the total federal tax income; they had been increased because of the war-time needs. By 1930, this group of taxes was contributing only 3 per cent of the total, but they were increased again, because of depression needs, to 14 per cent of the total in 1935. They declined to 9 per cent in 1939.

The analysis was based on figures in United States Treasury reports.

New "Interrupted Sentence" Law May Save Jobs For Working Man

New York state judges and magistrates, under provisions of a new law, may now make efforts to save the jobs of persons convicted of minor law violations by sentencing them to serve their terms on certain days or on week-ends, information from the Council of State Governments showed today.

The new statute, called the "interrupted sentence" law, was signed recently by New York's governor. Judges or magistrates in all of New York except New York City may impose the split sentence only if the original sentence is less than 60 days.

An Elmsford, N.Y., police justice, imposing the first interrupted sentence under the new state law, sentenced a stone mason to pay a \$50 fine and serve 15 consecutive Saturdays and Sundays in jail. The laborer has a wife and four children.

"The new law is a good one because it allows a man to continue working and yet receive any punishment in the form of a jail term that a judge believes he deserves," the judge said.

The governor, in signing the bill, pointed out that several years ago he signed an interrupted sentence law applying only to Rochester. At that time, he said he believed such a statute deserved a test before being introduced as a state-wide measure.

The law worked satisfactorily in Rochester, the governor said, and with the New York State Association of Magistrates approving it he was willing to broaden the scope of the measure.

The Council pointed out that, although the New York state law is unusual, interrupted sentences have been imposed in various parts of the country in the past for similar reasons. In agricultural communities, for example, judges have used their discretion in allowing farmers to finish crop harvests before beginning terms for minor offenses.

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(Housing management - F)

Tenants Swing Paint Brushes, Keep Rents Down In Two Housing Projects

Acting as their own decorators, tenants of two public housing projects, in Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis, helped keep project rents down by saving the price of painting labor in a mass clean-up this spring, according to reports from the National Association of Housing Officials. In each case, the painting was supervised by a skilled technician from the maintenance department of the project.

At Langston Terrace homes in Washington, families who had been living in the project for 18 months were notified that they might redecorate the side walls of their own apartments--the ceilings and trim were still in good condition. The housing management office and the tenant agreed on a mutually satisfactory date for redecorating, and a selection of three colors of paint--buff, blue and green--was made available, the paint pre-mixed by the custodial staff.

On the agreed date, maintenance employees delivered to the tenant a five-foot ladder, two brushes, and a five-gallon can containing one gallon of casein paint for each room and an additional half gallon for the halls. Instruction on the application of the paint and care of equipment was given the tenants, most of whom did their painting in the evenings.

Each family in a three-room apartment was given two full days to complete the redecoration, or three days in the five-room units. At the end of this time, equipment was collected and routed to the next family.

At Lockefield Garden Apartments in Indianapolis, where a general re-painting would have raised rents, the management offered to furnish the first 25 families applying with all materials necessary to paint their own apartments. When 117 families responded, the management agreed to allow additional tenants to redecorate, and furnished paint, brushes, ladders and drop cloths to protect furniture and floors.

Before any actual painting was done, sample work was put on some of the walls, and a painting demonstration was held which all tenants were invited to watch.

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painting labor in a mass clean-up this spring, according to reports from the
National Association of Housing Officials. In each case, the painting was supervised
by a skilled technician from the maintenance department of the project.

At Langston Terrace houses in Washington, families who had been living in the

for 15 months were notified that they might redecorate the houses in their
own apartments--the ceilings and trim were still in good condition. The houses

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redecorating, and a selection of three colors of paint--buff, blue and green--was made.
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A meeting demonstration was held which all tenants were invited to attend.

New Technique Aids In Notifying Civil Service Job Applicants

A novel technique for notifying civil service candidates that they failed to qualify in examinations has been worked out by the California State Personnel Board to replace the usual brief form notice.

With two or three thousand candidates a month to notify, the personnel board adopted a system of preparing on addressograph plates--hitherto used only for mechanical addressing--a number of stock paragraphs, each explaining in detail the reasons for failure.

A postcard "Notification of Test Results," self-addressed by each candidate, is filled in on the reverse side from the proper addressograph plate and mailed in a "window" envelope. This type of notice, according to a report to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, gives more complete and courteous information than the old forms, and reduces the amount of individual correspondence that was formerly necessary.

* * *

Cities Move Toward Billboard Control

Two Florida cities have taken unusual steps toward the elimination of billboards, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The city of Fort Myers has virtually eliminated the outdoor advertisements by a 10-cent tax on each square foot of sign surface.

Lake Worth has prohibited all billboards within 200 feet of the street unless they are attached to a building of stable construction to withstand high winds. This ordinance, legally based on considerations of public safety, has forced down a large proportion of billboards in the city.

* * *

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Finance, legally based on considerations of public safety, has forced down a ban on of billboards in the city.

JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY

New York Law Sets Up Personnel Aid For Local Governments

New York municipalities will soon be able to obtain advice and technical assistance on personnel management from the state under a new amendment to the state civil service law, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

The amended law authorizes the New York State civil service commission to furnish cities and other local governments, at their request, with technical personnel services on job-classifications and civil service examinations "for such compensation as may be agreed upon."

In enacting the law, New York followed California, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Wisconsin, all of which have provided that the state may furnish personnel facilities to local governments at their expense, the Assembly said. The object of these provisions is to enable small cities and rural counties to secure the temporary services of full-time technical staffs which they could not afford to maintain themselves.

The California statute, adopted a few years ago, authorizes local governments to enter into contractual relations for personnel service with the state personnel board or with neighboring jurisdictions. The Los Angeles County civil service commission, under this law, administers merit systems in several cities. The contracting governments pay for the service on a cost basis.

Local governments in Tennessee, Minnesota, Rhode Island and Wisconsin have not yet taken advantage of the enabling acts passed within the past year in those states.

Another kind of contractual system which provides civil service facilities for local governments at cost is followed in Michigan, where the Michigan Municipal League installs merit systems and performs the technical personnel work connected with their operation for local civil service agencies on request.

In addition to these states, three others--New Jersey, Massachusetts and Maryland--administer personnel functions for local governments having civil service through their state agencies, but at the states' expense. An Ohio law vests responsibility for administering county personnel functions in the state civil service commission, but action has been taken under this law in only one or two instances.

How State U. Personnel Aid the Local Government

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T. Sullivan - Res.

Cleveland Records Show Great Increase In Police Traffic Responsibilities

A tremendous increase in traffic responsibilities of the average police department during the last 20 years was indicated today in a comparison of the 1939 report of the Cleveland police department with a similar report issued by the department in 1918.

In forwarding the comparison to the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Cleveland officials pointed out that in 1918 there were between 50,000 and 60,000 automobiles registered in the city while today Cleveland has approximately 250,000 registered motor vehicles.

A brief comparison of law violations between 1918 and 1939 in Cleveland shows that during 1918, 1,679 motorists were arrested for violating speed laws and 376 for other traffic violations; in 1939 there were 39,046 arrests for driving violations, and 140,000 arrests for parking violations.

The Association pointed out that parking regulations are more strict now than 20 years ago, and said this undoubtedly was a contributing factor to the great increase in arrests for this type of violation.

The increase in traffic division personnel has not kept pace with the five-fold increase in the number of vehicles registered in Cleveland, according to a comparison of the reports.

In 1918, the motorcycle unit of the traffic division was composed of 20 men as compared with a personnel of 65 today. The mounted police force in 1918 was made up of 31 men and one sergeant; today it has 45 men and four sergeants.

The greatest increase in personnel is in traffic patrolmen, according to the Association. The Cleveland police department had 76 patrolmen on traffic post duty in 1918 as compared with 299 officers on fixed traffic post duty today.

The Association said Cleveland's traffic division was one of the first to develop and use some of the modern techniques of traffic control and accident prevention. A survey of the city was made in 1918 and a list prepared of all dangerous curves, permanent abutments, approaches to subways, railroad crossings and other danger zones. Cleveland also was one of the first large cities to use an accident spot map, and a system of selective enforcement based on the spot map was inaugurated before 1920.

Police Traffic Administration

A tremendous increase in traffic responsibilities of the average police during the last 20 years was indicated today in a comparison of the 1929 report of the Cleveland police department with a similar report issued by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to the Cleveland officials pointed out that in 1918 there were between 50,000 and 60,000 arrests for parking violations. The Association pointed out that parking regulations are more strict now than in 1918. In 1929 there were 30,000 arrests for driving violations, and 140,000 arrests for parking violations. The increase in traffic division personnel has not kept pace with the five-fold increase in the number of vehicles registered in Cleveland, according to a report of the reports. In 1918, the motorcycle unit of the traffic division was composed of 20 men and a personnel of 65 today. The mounted police force in 1918 was made up of 10 men and today it is 100 men. The greatest increase in personnel is in traffic policemen, according to the report. The Cleveland police department had 75 policemen in traffic post duty in 1918, as compared with 200 officers on fixed traffic post duty today. The Association said Cleveland's traffic division was one of the first to develop and use some of the modern techniques of traffic control and accident prevention. A survey of the city was made in 1918 and a list prepared of all dangerous intersections, approaches to highways, railroad crossings and other hazardous places. Cleveland also was one of the first large cities to use an accident

Fourteen Cities Report Satisfaction With Five-Day Week

Satisfactory working out of a five-day, 40-hour week for municipal employes, adopted by at least 14 cities during the past seven years, was reported in a survey by the International City Managers' Association today.

Six of the cities adopted the shorter work week in 1932 and 1933. They were Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Seattle, which applied the five-day week to all employes except policemen and firemen; and Sacramento and Schenectady, which applied it only to laborers working for the city.

During the following five years, all employes of Minneapolis, San Francisco, Escanaba, Mich., Reading, Pa., Rockford, Ill., and the Los Angeles Board of Education went on such a schedule, while Everett, Wash., and Cincinnati introduced the five-day week for laborers and certain other employes.

The earlier adoptions of the short week occurred when cities tried to offset necessary wage and salary reductions with reduced working hours. In nearly all of the cities reporting, pay-cuts were later restored, but the shorter work week was retained.

The five-day week was adopted in most instances with the understanding that there would be no increase in the number of employes, according to the report. Chicago, however, found it necessary to employ more workers in the skilled trades and crafts, Detroit added some employes in services operating continuously, such as the water department, and Milwaukee added some. In Minneapolis, adoption of the five-day week led firemen and policemen, who had to work seven days, to demand compensating benefits such as additional time off or increased pay.

Most of the cities reported that the budget for salaries and wages since adoption of the five-day week has been about the same as before. Even where there has been an increase in the number of employes, the total budget of the city has not been greatly affected. One city said that new work procedures and improved equipment made possible a slight reduction in taxes.

The five-day week has improved employe morale, according to the cities reporting. All say the plan is working satisfactorily. The output per employe in Schenectady, for example, is reported as great as that for the five and one-half day week because employes seem to make a greater effort to get their work done.

Revised Insurance Methods Save Money For Madison, Wis., Winnetka, Ill.

Madison, Wis., and Winnetka, Ill., through proper appraisal, elimination of hazards and penalties, alert underwriting and competitive bidding, have saved many thousands of dollars in fire insurance costs on city-owned buildings, according to reports today from the American Municipal Association.

Madison's revised insurance program reduced premium costs from \$10,250 per five-year period to \$2,763. Winnetka staved off a possible 500 per cent increase in its yearly insurance bill of \$500.

The Madison plan was adopted in 1937, after a two-year study which included an expert appraisal of all city buildings and all other city properties which should be insured against fire loss. Structural improvements which would eliminate certain penalties against the properties were made. Insurance rating bureaus then rerated the insurance values of the buildings.

After discussing reinsuring methods, city officials decided that co-insurance should be carried on \$326,740 of city property, and that the city carry its own insurance, from a \$75,000 fund set up by appropriations over a period of years, on \$49,895 of buildings found by the assessor to be poor risks which would require high insurance rates. Under the co-insurance plan, commercial companies carry 90 per cent of the insurable value of the buildings and the city assumes responsibility for the remaining 10 per cent.

Since the revised plan became effective, Madison has suffered no fire loss on any structure covered by a commercial insurance policy. Losses amounting to \$8,298 have occurred to property covered by the city's self-insurance fund.

City officials of Winnetka, where premium costs were \$500 a year on four pieces of property valued at about \$1,000,000, found that under a state law passed in 1937 there was little chance of avoiding a sharp increase in premium costs if they continued to place the city's insurance in the manner followed up to that time. Under the law, insurance companies may not deviate from their rating bureau rates unless the state insurance commissioner is satisfied the deviation is warranted.

After discarding proposals to operate a self-insurance fund because of risks involved while building up the fund, Winnetka officials decided to find one or more dependable companies willing to quote, in competition, rates bearing a reasonable relationship to the nature of the risks. Before bids were asked, city property was reappraised and improved to avoid certain penalties.

Two of the companies submitted bids much lower than the others, and the property was insured thus: The village hall, fire station and yards were insured with company "A" because its bids on this property were lower. Company "B's" bid on the electric and water plant was the lowest, so it was accepted after certain improvements on the property were made at the company's suggestion.

Because of this reappraisal and competitive bidding, Winnetka continues to pay little more than \$500 a year in insurance premiums.

1 Governmental units - Relationships

1 Sewage disposal

Cities On San Francisco, Boston Bays Cooperate In Sewage Elimination Projects

Two examples of intermunicipal cooperation were shown by the American Public Works Association today in reporting on cooperative sewage disposal projects by seven cities on the east shore of San Francisco bay, and three cities on or near Boston bay. The discharge of sewage into the bays has created pollution problems.

More than \$57,000 has been contributed toward the San Francisco bay project by the participating cities--Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Richmond, Albany, Emeryville and Piedmont. The cities have a combined population of more than 500,000.

An executive committee including a representative of each city, four of them city managers, administers the program.

A special commission has been organized to supervise the pollution elimination project in Boston bay and on streams emptying into the bay. Members of the commission are representatives of Boston, Quincy and Winchester.

The commission has been authorized to begin preliminary work on the project and, upon receipt of a federal grant and payment from the various cities participating, to proceed with the construction work.

* * *

City Demands Used Car Guarantee After Student Is Killed

The accidental death of a high school student in a newly-purchased second-hand car with defective brakes led in double-quick time to a new ordinance for New Rochelle, N.Y., on used car sales, the American Municipal Association reported today.

The ordinance, passed almost as soon as the coroner's verdict was heard, forbids the sale, either by individuals or by dealers, of second-hand cars which are mechanically defective, under penalty of a \$100 fine. Each seller must give to each car purchaser a certificate of mechanical perfection stating that the car meets all safety requirements.

The law goes into effect May 15, and is expected to receive strict enforcement, the Association noted.

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SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

The examples of intermunicipal cooperation were shown by the American Water Works Association today in reporting on cooperative sewage disposal projects by cities on the east shore of San Francisco Bay, and three cities on the west coast. The discharge of sewage into the bay has created pollution problems.

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A special commission has been organized to coordinate the pollution elimination project in Boston Bay and on streams emptying into the bay. Members of the commission are representatives of Boston, Quincy and Weymouth. The commission has been authorized to begin preliminary work on the project. It, upon receipt of a Federal grant and payment from the various cities participating.

* * *

THE NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

The accidental death of a high school student in a party-purchase accident and car with defective brakes led in a few days to a new ordinance for New York City. The ordinance, passed almost as soon as the coroner's verdict was heard, the sale, either by individuals or by dealers, of second-hand cars which are defective, under penalty of \$100 fine. Each seller must give to each car a certificate of mechanical perfection stating that the car meets all

Police

Legislative Developments, Court Decisions Highlight Police Field

Legislation and court decisions affecting labor disputes, gambling, automobile parking, speed regulations, wire tapping and state police reorganizations highlighted developments during the last year in the law enforcement and traffic safety field, according to reports in the 1940 Municipal Year Book, published recently by the International City Managers' Association.

Legislation in some states made the role of the police less difficult in labor disputes--with Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin enacting laws which regulate picketing, outlaw sit-down strikes, and provide for a delay of strikes after the breaking off of negotiations for labor agreements. It was pointed out that legislation regulating picketing in Alabama and in Shasta county, Calif., was held unconstitutional recently by the U.S. supreme court on the ground that certain provisions infringed freedom of speech.

Minnesota's statute created a state division of conciliation with certain powers in labor disputes. The law prohibits obstruction of highways and streets, and interference with vehicles; permits only one picket at the entrance of premises where there is no strike; and requires a 30-day notice to the governor before a strike is called in a business especially affecting public interests.

Cleveland's safety director, in an opinion prohibiting picketing of private homes during a strike, said "the right of peaceful picketing has become an accepted part of American law . . . however, the right to picket does not extend to the private home of an employer or a non-striker."

In the traffic safety field, Indiana and Maine legalized evidence obtained by chemical tests for intoxication--their laws providing that an alcoholic content of .15 per cent or more in a person's blood is prima facie evidence that the defendant was drunk while driving. Results of chemical tests have been used as evidence in courts in 22 states, the reports said.

New speed regulations, mostly raising speed limits, were enacted by 15 states in 1939. Six states--Minnesota, Maine, Michigan, Indiana, Nebraska and North Carolina--set up both prima facie and fixed limits. States with prima facie limits make it unlawful to exceed the limit unless the motorist, if arrested, can prove that his speed was "reasonable and prudent" for existing conditions. South Carolina

and West Virginia enacted compulsory motor vehicle inspection laws, while Arkansas and Nebraska repealed theirs. Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont put teeth in their compulsory inspection laws, and Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Oregon, Tennessee and Texas enacted laws permitting all or certain cities to require periodic inspections.

State police reorganizations were marked by expansions and consolidations. Minnesota combined its highway patrol and bureau of criminal identification; Tennessee's highway patrol was granted general police powers to curb gambling and bootlegging; Iowa created a state safety department, placing in one unit the various state police activities including traffic; Alabama created a department of public safety and, in addition, granted police powers to the state highway patrol. Kansas City, Mo., became the sixth city where the police department is under state control, after conviction of local political leaders for income tax evasion. Under the new setup, the police are officers of the state.

Enactment of bicycle ordinances within the last year brought to more than 500 the number of cities with local regulations for licensing and regulating bicycles. Pedestrian control measures also were adopted by several cities.

Court decisions affecting the police field include a recent U.S. court of appeals ruling that, under the Federal Communications act of 1935, evidence obtained by wire-tapping is not admissible in federal court in a criminal case. Another federal court held that a phonographic recording of a telephone conversation obtained by a participant was not intercepted within the meaning of the act of 1935, and therefore is admissible as evidence.

The U.S. supreme court in November held invalid the handbill ordinances of Los Angeles, Milwaukee, and Worcester, Mass., and the canvassing ordinance of Irvington, N.J. But the court, at the same time, recognized the validity of reasonable police regulations to protect the city from public nuisances resulting from certain methods of handbill distribution.

A New York court decision recently held invalid a law creating a presumption that persons in an automobile in which a pistol was found had illegal possession of the weapon.

An important decision affecting parking control was handed down by the Michigan supreme court recently, according to the Year Book. The court upheld a Detroit ordinance which says that the registration card or license plates displayed on an automobile "constitute prima facie presumption that the owner was the person who parked where the violation occurred."

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Pan American Inter-City Cooperation Makes Headway

The movement toward cooperation among the municipalities of the 21 American republics has produced definite results in the creation of a national union of cities in Costa Rica and the appointment of organizing committees for such unions in five other countries, the American Municipal Association said today.

Since the Pan American Commission on Intermunicipal Cooperation held its first meeting in Chicago last November, its president, Dr. Antonio Beruff Mendieta, of Havana, Cuba, has appointed organizing or liaison committees for Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Haiti. The Costa Rican national municipal union held its first Congress of Municipalities in San José in March.

National unions of municipalities had already been set up in Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

Cooperation among city governments of different countries can help to further international good will, according to the American Municipal Association. The Association, the federation of state leagues of municipalities in the United States, is linked through membership in a special American committee with the International Union of Local Authorities, which has headquarters at Brussels. Every effort is being made to maintain collaboration with the International Union in spite of war-time difficulties.

The first national union or league of city governments was founded in Norway in 1838. Since that time, municipalities in the leading countries of the world have organized leagues or associations to help solve their common problems.

The Pan American Commission on Intermunicipal Cooperation was established by act of the first Pan American Congress of Municipalities, which met in Havana in November, 1938. The Congress was founded with the approval of the Pan American Union.

The heads of the organizing committees in the various countries are: Argentina--Luis L. Boffi, member of the council of Buenos Aires; Brazil--Edison J. Passos, secretary of the department of public works of the Federal District (Rio de Janeiro) of Brazil; Costa Rica--Manuel Rodó, governor of the province and mayor of the city of San José; Dominican Republic--V. Alvarez Pina, president of the administrative council of the district of Santo Domingo; El Salvador--José María Melara, mayor of San Salvador; and Haiti--Raphael Brouard, mayor of Port-au-Prince.

Municipal Employees Of 38 States Train While They Work

Municipal employees are going to school on the job in greater numbers than ever before, according to a report from the International City Managers' Association today. The total number of firemen, policemen, finance officers and other government employees taking in-service training in order to learn more about their work is now approximately 50,000.

Federal grants to states for vocational education of public employees, given for the third year under the George-Deen act, are making training programs possible in many agencies which had no funds available for them before, according to the report in the Association's 1940 Year Book.

All but 10 of the states had some sort of public service training program last year for local government employees, and grants from federal funds for this purpose amounted to \$90,000. Most of the courses were for firemen and policemen. About 30,000 firemen went to school in 30 states, and 9,000 policemen attended courses in 20 states.

Fifteen states extended training programs to other jobs, each conducting one or more courses for officials such as assessors, city attorneys, city clerks, finance officers, food inspectors, justices of the peace, park employees, and swimming pool operators.

The public employees are being taught at zone schools, central schools, and by itinerant instructors -- all programs designed to meet the training needs of small cities at minimum cost.

Long-term programs for public service training were started or continued in 12 states in 1939, and by the end of the year full-time supervisors of training were at work for state boards in Arkansas, California, Michigan, New York and Pennsylvania. Many state leagues of municipalities, which originated training programs for public employees before the George-Deen act was passed, advise the state vocational boards.

Municipal administrators also sought training on the job. Approximately 150 public officials last year enrolled in courses offered by the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration conducted by the International City Managers' Association. City administrators in Oklahoma and key administrators of the Los Angeles City government were given training under an experimental program originated by their respective vocational boards. Massachusetts initiated a training course by conference method for fire department command officers.

A number of universities were active in in-service training in 1939, offering night courses or periodic institutes. The University of Southern California held a one-week institute of government which enrolled more than 3,200 public employees from 138 cities, a dozen states, and other governmental jurisdictions.

Municipal employees are going to school on the job in greater numbers than before, according to a report from the International City Managers' Association. The total number of firemen, policemen, finance officers and other government employees taking in-service training in order to learn more about their work is now approximately 30,000.

Robert Grant, who stated the vocational education of public employees, given the third year under the George-John act, and making training programs possible in many agencies which had no time available for them before, according to the report in the Association's 1936 Year Book.

All but 10 of the states had some sort of public service training program last year for local government employees, and grants from federal funds for that purpose amounted to \$20,000. Most of the courses were for firemen and policemen. Last year 30,000 firemen went to school in 30 states, and 9,000 policemen attended courses in 25 states.

Illinois states extended training programs to other jobs, and are sending no more courses for officials such as assessors, city attorneys, city judges, finance officers, food inspectors, the head of the police, park employees, and various other jobs.

The public employees are being taught at some schools, central schools, and in-service instructors -- all programs designed to meet the training needs of public employees at minimum cost.

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work for state boards in Arkansas, California, Michigan, New York and Pennsylvania. By state leaders of municipalities, which organized training programs for public employees before the George-John act was passed, advise the state vocational boards. Municipal administrations also began training on the job. Approximately

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Joint Action Of Housing And Welfare Agencies Prescribed In Report

Definite ways to dovetail the programs of public housing and public welfare agencies, both of which are concerned with the housing of low-income families, were outlined in a report today by the Joint Committee on Housing and Welfare, set up six months ago by the National Association of Housing Officials and the American Public Welfare Association.

Pointing out that welfare and housing have the same basic objective, the report emphasized that the building of low-rent housing should be left to housing authorities, but that housing officials should seek the advice of experienced welfare officials on such items as housing needs in various areas, the location of new projects, and the adjustment of plans and designs to family habits and requirements.

Welfare and housing agencies can work together on many phases of the housing problem, the report said. In the first place, "welfare and housing officials should join in developing reasonable housing standards in their communities, in seeing that these standards and the reasons behind them are well understood, and in urging their adoption as a housing code by regular municipal or other local governments."

To accomplish this, both housing and welfare agencies should have their field forces report violations of housing codes, and suggest possible amendments or additions, according to the report.

"Welfare officials should make every effort to maintain adequate standards for the housing occupied by families given public assistance," the report said, adding that the chief public welfare agencies in the larger communities might well have housing or real estate divisions for this purpose.

Housing authorities, before undertaking slum clearance projects, can profitably check with welfare agencies for the number and kinds of vacant quarters to which displaced families may be moved, the report said. The report recommended that housing authorities admit poorly housed families of low income as tenants regardless of the source of rent, and suggested that housing officials call in experienced welfare officials to set up standards and methods of tenant selection.

The report said both housing and welfare officials should recognize the necessity of moving out of low-cost projects families whose incomes have increased beyond the limit set for eligibility to live there.

The report commented favorably on the present tendency of housing managers to have tenants help maintain the buildings and grounds, and recommended continuance of the policy as being economical and helpful in increasing the tenants' recognition of responsibility.

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Nine Cities Pay Laborers On Yearly Basis

Yearly instead of hourly wages are being paid municipal laborers in a number of cities, the International City Managers' Association reported today. The new practice is an advantage to laborers receiving relatively low earnings, making it easier for them to budget expenses, the report said.

The cities which have put practically all laborers and skilled trades employes on a monthly or annual pay basis include Buffalo, Everett, Wash., the Los Angeles School District, Milwaukee, Rockford, Ill., Sacramento, Seattle, Ventura, Calif., and Wichita Falls, Tex. These cities give such employes two weeks' annual vacation with pay.

Skilled workers and laborers in Chicago, Detroit, Escanaba, Minneapolis, New York City, San Francisco, and Schenectady are generally paid on an hourly or a daily basis, but are granted vacations with pay. In Minneapolis, seasonal and intermittent employes who have been on the city payroll for five years or more and who work on a pro rata basis six months or longer in any year are given vacations of one day for each month employed, the report said.

Milwaukee has one of the most comprehensive annual wage systems, according to the report. Unskilled laborers who do ash collection, street cleaning and general cleanup work have been on an annual pay basis since 1935. They receive \$1,380 a year. In recent years, one class of laborers after another has been put on a monthly pay basis, until now about 65 per cent of the 1,200 to 1,500 unskilled laborers work on yearly or monthly wages. About 15 per cent are still paid by the hour although they work the year around, while the remaining 20 per cent are seasonal workers paid by the hour.

Milwaukee laborers report for work daily, Monday through Friday. They lose no pay if bad weather or other conditions make it impossible to work, but generally make up lost time on emergency assignments. Employes paid by the hour get two weeks' vacation with pay if there is no more than 30 consecutive days' intermission in employment. Otherwise they receive one day's vacation for each month worked.

The cities which have put practically all laborers and skilled tradesmen on a monthly or annual pay basis include Baltimore, Everett, Wash., the Los Angeles Public Works Dept., Chicago, Ill., and many others.

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New York City, San Francisco, and Schenectady are generally paid on an hourly or daily basis, but are granted vacations with pay. In Minneapolis, seasonal and temporary workers are paid on a daily basis, but are granted vacations with pay.

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Four Types of Mid-Street Traffic Control Devices Popular With Cities

Four types of mid-street safety devices are in popular use among the larger American and Canadian cities as engineering aids for traffic control, a survey of 58 cities reported to the American Municipal Association showed today.

The average city above 300,000 population has at least four of the five common devices--channelizing traffic islands, loading islands, pedestrian islands, raised medial strips, and rotary traffic islands. Cities below 300,000 population ordinarily use at least one of the traffic control devices, according to the survey, and their use is spreading rapidly to heavily traveled highways.

The most widespread device is the channelizing traffic island, used to guide traffic into divergent paths of travel at heavily used intersections. They were adopted by most of the 33 cities using them because of the complexity of street intersections.

Loading and pedestrian islands, designed primarily for pedestrian protection, have become more common since 1935, according to the survey. More than half of the cities reported them in use.

Raised medial strips, found in 23 of the 58 cities, are used to separate traffic moving in opposite directions, in order to lessen the danger of sideswiping and head-on collisions. The rotary islands, around which traffic is routed at multiple street intersections, are in use in about one-third of the cities reporting in the survey. They are the least common of the five types of devices.

A general decrease in accidents followed installation of the strips and islands in most of the cities, according to the survey. They were favorably received in most cases by the press and public and by motor clubs. While a few of the cities reported that damages to vehicles had increased after installation of the mid-street devices, they believed that the added pedestrian protection outweighed the increased hazard to vehicles.

Municipal traffic engineers now working on designs for the safety devices are particularly concerned with protection of motorists, the survey said. They have found that proper lighting is the feature of medial strips and islands most essential to this purpose. Sloping curbs of low height, and low abutments and end protections on islands are also considered essential.

The survey was made by the League of Oregon Cities, which is affiliated with the American Municipal Association.

3,000 Richmond Citizens Pay Back-Taxes In Installments

Three thousand delinquent taxpayers in Richmond, Va., are paying up overdue accounts on an installment basis, according to the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada. Fewer than 100 persons, however, have taken advantage of permission, given within the last year, to pay current taxes in installments.

The citizen's payments on back taxes are accepted as deposits and are applied to his tax debt only after enough has been deposited to cover the delinquent tax bill for an entire year. The plan is being used for both delinquent real estate and personal property taxes. Under a new Virginia law, delinquent personal property taxes are collectible only within a five-year period.

More than three-fourths of the cities in the United States over 30,000 population now collect property taxes in installments, according to the Association. Approximately 150 of these cities allow payment in two installments, and 53 in four installments. Of the remainder, 11 cities permit payment in three installments, and 18 permit from five to 12 installments.

* * *

Five Utilities Most Commonly Owned By Cities

Waterworks, sewage disposal plants, cemeteries, airports and auditoriums are the most commonly owned public utilities in cities of the United States, according to a survey in the 1940 Year Book of the International City Managers' Association.

Nearly 73 per cent of the cities over 5,000 population own their waterworks. The number of municipally owned sewage disposal plants increased 3 per cent last year.

Nine other utilities, including buses and street railways, electric and gas plants, and public markets, are commonly owned by municipalities. Approximately 200 cities--11 per cent of the total--own no utilities.

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State Liquor Laws Show Multiple Types of Control

After six years of repeal, the 45 states with legalized liquor show widely varying provisions for liquor control, a survey for the Council of State Governments revealed today.

The states' first job was to provide a method of distribution satisfactory to the people, and at the same time to obtain considerable revenue, stamp out bootlegging, and actively promote temperance, the survey pointed out. To do this, 28 states put the liquor business in private hands under license systems, while 17 created government monopolies.

In 16 of the 17 monopoly states, the retail liquor establishments are operated by the state. Wyoming, the seventeenth state, exercises a monopoly on wholesaling and leaves retail sale to private industry. Each of the state monopoly systems is administered by a board or commission. More than half of the private license states assign the control of alcoholic beverages to state agencies with other duties, usually fiscal, and 13 have created entirely new machinery to administer the liquor laws.

Three-man liquor commissions are the rule in the monopoly states. Commission members are usually appointed for three years by the governor. Six of the states with private license programs have single executives in charge, and five other states in this group have three-man licensing authorities.

No rigid qualifications have been set up by the states for selecting liquor administrators, and even in the employment of subordinates little formal attention is paid to the merit system, the survey pointed out. Only eight states have enacted rules governing the selection of personnel of their liquor agencies.

Powers of the liquor control agencies in the 45 "wet" states also vary widely. Three-fourths of them are empowered to make rules and regulations on hours of sale, limits of sale, quality of goods, labels and container sizes. Liquor control officials have been given full police powers in 24 states.

Thirty-five states allow local option elections, and "dry" areas have been created by vote in 29 states. These "dry" areas plus the three prohibition states include about one-sixth of the nation's population.

The "dry" states are Kansas, Mississippi and Oklahoma. The "monopoly" states are: Alabama, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. All other states have licensing systems.

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right monopolies.

In 16 of the 47 monopoly states, the retail liquor establishments are owned by the state. Wyoming, the seventeenth state, exercises a monopoly on selling and leases retail sale to private industry. Each of the state monopolies is administered by a board or commission. More than half of the private license states assign the control of alcoholic beverages to state agencies with other duties, usually fiscal, and 15 have created entirely new machinery to administer the liquor laws.

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State Highway Police Open Campaigns Against Pedestrian Accidents

State police departments and highway patrols will make an especial effort during the coming summer vacation months to curb pedestrian accidents and fatalities on the nation's highways, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

Intensive educational and law enforcement campaigns already are under way in several states--including Michigan, West Virginia and Maryland--while other states plan rigid enforcement of laws governing the actions of occasional strollers and hitchhikers on their open highways.

At a rate of more than 100 a day, the Association said, Michigan state police are issuing warnings to pedestrians violating the state's new traffic law requiring them to walk on the left side of the highway facing on-coming traffic. The names of the violators are taken, and a second violation results in a court summons.

Officials of the Michigan state police department say that the strict enforcement program follows a sudden rise in pedestrian accidents, with pedestrians the victims of about 60 per cent of the accidents in cities, and 25 per cent of the fatalities in rural areas.

In West Virginia, where 159 pedestrians were killed last year, state patrolmen have been instructed to stop pedestrians who openly violate traffic regulations or fail to use ordinary discretion while walking along state highways.

"Most persons wish to help reduce highway deaths," one West Virginia official said, "but often they do not realize that they might themselves be tempting fate through failure to observe such simple precautions as walking on the left side of the road facing traffic, wearing something white or carrying a light at night, crossing streets at crosswalks, waiting for the 'go' signal, and a hundred and one other little things that every driver must remember."

Maryland, in addition to enforcing highway pedestrian regulations, has placed along state highways signs which say: "Attention Pedestrians, Walk On The Left Facing Traffic;" and has publicized highway rules affecting hitchhikers and other pedestrians.

The Association said that approximately 15 states have enacted laws requiring pedestrians to walk on the left side of the highway. The states include Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

In addition, many states have laws prohibiting pedestrians from standing on the highway while "thumbing" rides. A few of the states make it a misdemeanor to ask for a ride.

Court Decisions Say Cities May Charge Street Rentals, Enter Business Fields

Court decisions defining certain rights of cities in three states in relation to private business were reported today by the American Public Works Association. One decision upheld a municipal ordinance requiring public utilities to pay annual rentals for the use of city streets, and two held that cities have the right to enter the business field.

In the first opinion, the Texas state supreme court upheld a two-year old ordinance of the city of West University Place requiring telephone, telegraph, electric and gas companies to pay the city an annual rental of 4 per cent of their gross receipts earned in the city for the use of municipal streets, alleys and other public ways. It was the court's opinion, also, that the use of gross receipts for measuring the rental charge was a valid method, and that the rate of 4 per cent in this case was not unreasonable.

The opinions that municipalities have the right to enter competitive business fields were handed down by the supreme courts of Florida and Nebraska. In Florida, the right of Tallahassee to issue \$300,000 in revenue certificates to finance construction of an office building was upheld. The high court said that "the question of what is a municipal purpose is not static," and that cities may enter various kinds of business, even in competition with private enterprise, if the legislature so wills.

The Nebraska supreme court held recently that municipalities operating their own gas plants may establish retail stores to sell appliances such as stoves, gas burners and refrigerators.

In reporting the Nebraska opinion, the Association pointed out that several cities elsewhere in the country which own and operate electric power plants sell electrical equipment. One of these cities is Seattle, Wash., where the municipal light plant maintains a modern showroom and five branches located in different parts of the city, and salesmen are employed on a straight commission basis to solicit business. Electrical equipment is sold on a non-profit basis on a liberal credit system to meet individual requirements.

Among other cities which sell electrical equipment are Alameda, Calif., Two Rivers, Wis., and Lansing, Mich. Two Rivers, population 10,000, has been selling electric ranges and water heaters for about 15 years, and has sold and installed about 1,000 ranges. The city services the stoves free for one year.

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In the first opinion, the Texas state supreme court upheld a two-year city use of the city of West University Place requiring telephone, gas, water, electric and gas companies to pay the city an annual rental of 1 per cent of their gross receipts earned in the city for the use of municipal streets, alleys and other public places. It was the court's opinion, also, that the use of gross receipts for measurement of rental charges was a valid method, and that the rate of 1 per cent to this case was

The opinion that municipalities have the right to order compensation for services rendered was handed down by the supreme courts of Florida and Louisiana. In Florida, the right of Tallahassee to lease \$500,000 in revenue certificates to finance construction of an office building was upheld. The high court said that "the ordinance which is a municipal purpose is not valid," and that cities may enter various kinds of business, even in competition with private enterprises, if the legislature so wills.

Gas plants may establish retail stores to sell appliances such as stoves, ranges and refrigerators.

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Among other cities which sell electrical equipment are Alameda, Calif.; Erie, Wis.; and Lansing, Mich. Two Rivers, population 10,000, has been selling ranges and water heaters for about 15 years, and has sold and installed 100 ranges. The city services the stoves free for one year.

East Cleveland, O., Installs Fire Cadet System

Two cadet firemen are working for the fire department of East Cleveland, O., under a new system adopted by the Cleveland suburb to attract recent high school graduates into the fire service, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The cadet plan seeks graduates between the ages of 18 and 21, who take a civil service examination similar to that given regular firemen for appointment. Cadets have the same duties as regular firemen and are subject to all department rules, except that they are not required to purchase the regulation uniform. At the end of a three-year period they become eligible for appointment as regular firemen with no further examination other than a physical test.

The cadet receives \$80 a month as salary in the first year, \$100 a month the second year, and \$125 the third. If he becomes a regular fireman, his pay starts at \$150 a month and increases to \$200 a month in the fifth year.

The value of the apprentice plan is in its aid in recruiting better firemen and the establishment of a longer probation period, the report said.

Formerly, the age requirement for applicants for a fireman's position was 21 to 30 years, and many applicants were men who had already failed at one or more jobs or who had been steadily unemployed and turned to the position of fireman as a last resort.

With a three-year apprenticeship, the fire chief and the city manager will have more opportunity to ascertain the fitness of recruits for work as regular firemen before they are finally added to the force. The cadets are expected to take advantage of local opportunities for further formal schooling, according to the report.

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11-Year Income Analysis Shows Change In Distribution

Economic readjustments and the effects of government policies are reflected in the types of income paid to individuals in the United States during the past 11 years, according to an analysis made by the Federation of Tax Administrators today.

The analysis of income figures is significant for taxation purposes, the Federation pointed out, since tax revenues are affected not only by the size of the income of the nation but also by the manner in which it is distributed.

The analysis showed that in 1939 salaries and wages earned in private industry amounted to 51.5 per cent of the total, while in 1929 they stood at 57.9 per cent. In dollars, this was \$46,477,000,000 for last year as against \$53,283,000,000 in 1929.

Government workers last year were paid 8.6 per cent of the total income, as compared with 6.1 per cent in 1929. The highest percentage for this group during the ten-year period, however, occurred in 1932, when it amounted to 9.9 per cent of the total.

Income from social security, relief and work-relief payments, which represented only 1.2 per cent in 1929, by 1939 amounted to 6.5 per cent of the total. This was slightly less than in 1938.

The most stable percentages of income were reported from the self-employed, including farmers, and from rents and royalties. In 1929 this proportion of income was 20.6, and in 1939, it was 20.4 per cent. Figures for interim years were 17.3 per cent for 1932; 18.9 per cent for 1933; and 20.7 per cent each for 1937 and 1938.

The proportion of income from dividends and interest went up, then declined, during the 11-year period, standing last year at 13.0 per cent, as compared with 14.1 per cent in 1929.

Variations in the makeup of income payments from state to state and from region to region reflect the dominance of specific types of economic activity in the different regions, the Federation noted. The incomes of self-employed persons in 1938--the last year for which a breakdown by states and regions is available--amounted to 34.6 per cent of total income payments in the agricultural states of the north central region, compared to 17.6 per cent for the United States as a whole, showing the importance of farming in these states.

Salaries and wages received in private industry, on the other hand, ranged from 61.6 per cent of the total in the industrial states of the north central region to 48 per cent in the agricultural states of that region, and 53 per cent in the south central states.

The analysis was made from information supplied by the United States Department of Commerce.

Economic readjustments and the effects of government policies and measures on the types of income paid to individuals in the United States during the war in

The analysis of income figures is similar to that for the period 1939-1945, since tax revenues are collected and paid by the same persons, the

The analysis showed that in 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, and 1949, the percentage of total income paid to individuals in the United States during the war in

Government workers last year were paid 1.5 per cent of the total income, with 6.1 per cent in 1949. The highest percentage for this group during the period, however, occurred in 1945, when it amounted to 9.9 per cent of the

Income from social security, rental and other payments, which presented only 1.2 per cent in 1949, by 1945 amounted to 1.5 per cent of the total. It was slightly less than in 1945.

The most stable percentages of income were reported from the self-employed, including farmers, and from rents and royalties. In 1949 this group paid 1.7 per cent of the total income, it was 20.4 per cent in 1945, and in 1946, 1947, 1948, and 1949, it was 20.6, 20.7, 20.8, and 20.9 per cent respectively.

The proportion of income from dividends and interest went up, then declined, during the 11-year period, amounting last year at 18.0 per cent, as compared with 18.1 per cent in 1945.

Fluctuations in the makeup of income between those who are to receive it and those who pay it reflect the dominance of specific types of economic activity in the economy. The last year for which a breakdown of taxes and revenues is available is 1949. The percentage of total income paid in the form of taxes and revenues is 17.6 per cent for the United States as a whole, showing the

Cincinnati Opens New \$500,000 Municipal Garage, Car-Testing Plant

Construction of a one-story municipal garage which includes a five-lane automobile testing plant has been completed by the city of Cincinnati at a cost of \$500,000, the American Public Works Association reported today. The testing, maintenance and repair of all city-owned motor equipment will be done at the new garage, as well as the compulsory semi-annual testing of all privately owned automobiles.

About 400 batteries and 400 rotary brooms for street cleaning equipment will be made each year in the garage. The garage carries a \$15,000 stock of motor parts. Service and maintenance of the city's motor equipment will be done on the building's first floor, which has an area of 62,340 square feet. The basement will be used for storage of refuse collection equipment.

The automobile inspection lanes, operated by five crews of six members each, are in a separate section of the building. One lane is for large tractor-trailer units and another for commercial cars. All five lanes may be used for passenger vehicle inspection during rush periods.

* * *

Policemen "Mourn" Traffic Deaths in Kansas City

Kansas City, Mo., policemen now wear arm bands which record the number of traffic fatalities to date in the current year, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

Each time another person is killed by an automobile, the number on the band is changed.

Safety officials of the city hope that this new wrinkle in traffic safety work will focus attention on the safety drive now under way in Kansas City, which was the winner of the 1939 grand prize in the National Traffic Safety Contest.

* * *

Public Works Department

Construction of a one-story municipal garage which includes a two-story auto testing plant has been completed by the city of St. Louis. The American Public Works Association reported today that the testing plant and garage of all city-owned motor equipment will be built at the new site, as well as the compulsory semi-annual testing of all privately owned

About 400 batteries and 700 rotary engines for service are being stored in the new garage. The garage carries a \$1,000,000 bond if needed. The and maintenance of the city's motor equipment will be done on the first floor, which has an area of 10,000 square feet. The second floor is used for the collection of refuse collection equipment. The automobile inspection bureau, operated by five members of the city, is in a separate section of the building. One lane is for large trucks, one for cars and another for commercial cars. All five lanes may be used for emergency use in the event of a fire.

In St. Louis, Mo., the city has now won a battle with the tobacco companies to force them to pay for the current year, the International Association of Firefighters. Another person is killed by an automobile, the number on the car is 123456789.

Alliance, Nebr., Operates Demonstration Irrigation Farm As Public Service Project

Through the development and operation of a demonstration irrigation farm on 240 acres of city-owned land, Alliance, Nebr., hopes to perform a service of value to agricultural development throughout the district as well as promote the welfare of the city, information to the International City Managers' Association showed today.

Although the farm is an experimental project, and a public service unique in local government, it is expected to pay for itself through the sale of seed and market produce.

Experimental projects on the farm, directed by a former supervisor of a Nebraska state experimental farm, will include water application studies, development of special strains of plants for seed purposes, and studies of grass adaptation under irrigation.

Part of the farm program--including the planting this year of 20 acres of potatoes--will be carried out in cooperation with the Nebraska Certified Potato Growers' Association, according to reports. This association will help plant, cultivate, harvest and market the crop.

In addition, preliminary plans have been made with the U.S. department of agriculture and the Nebraska Crop Growers' Association for the planting of a newly developed alfalfa strain for seed increase purposes. The city may obtain an added source of income through the sale of certified alfalfa as a legume for irrigation farming, and the sale of alfalfa seed and hay.

A study of supplementary irrigation in late fall and early spring will be emphasized as the maximum acreage to be watered is developed. Following the initial season a rotation or cropping sequence will be established. Research problems may be tied into the program from time to time.

The land used for the experimental farm first was flooded by water from the city's storm sewer outlet. The outlet now is dammed up, and the water carried by gravity to the areas under irrigation. Additional water will be obtained as needed from the condenser cooling unit of the municipal electric generating plant.

While the Alliance project is one of the few of its type operated by a municipality, the city managers' association pointed out that many cities operate farms in conjunction with their homes for the aged, workhouses and poorhouses. A few cities, such as Louisville, Ky., and Flint, Mich., profit from the sale of produce not used by local institutions. The Flint municipal farm serves also for disposing of city garbage, which is hauled to the farm and spread over pastures as pig feed and fertilizer. The city profits from the sale of both pigs and produce.

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Ohio Taking Lead In Development Of Roadside Park Systems

A state roadside park system second to none may result from Ohio's park expansion program, under which 55 new roadside units costing an average of \$1,200 each are being added this spring to 200 or more now operated by the state. In addition, sites for 100 more roadside parks are available, and these units will be established by 1941, according to the Ohio state highway department.

By this expansion program, Ohio is taking the lead along with Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Connecticut, Washington and Oregon in attempting to provide adequate picnic and camp facilities for their own citizens and vacationing tourists, according to information today from the American Public Works Association.

The average size of the roadside parks, located on land either owned by the state or given to the state for this purpose, is about one and three-quarters acres, although a few parks are as large as 10 acres. Each park has a tested well or water supply, covered by a shelter, and at least two ovens or fireplaces with a table for each. Highway department maintenance employees visit the parks each day to see that they are kept clean, and state police patrol the parks at night.

Labor used in constructing the parks is supplied by the Work Projects Administration, the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Most of the materials for construction are contributed. Power companies gave old utility poles, while discarded guard rails and other equipment were furnished by the state highway and other departments.

Dallas J. Dupre, Jr., the highway department's chief architect, who inaugurated Ohio's roadside park program four years ago, said it has been so successful that the system has been studied by officials from many states, including California and Oregon. He said the park system would be supplemented this year by roadside tables of the type used by Michigan for persons who wish only to stop and eat lunches. Approximately 225 tables will be placed this year.

In Michigan, the state highway department reports that 3,000 roadside tables are being refinished in highway maintenance garages for placement along scenic highways, and that 450 new tables are under construction. The tables are expected to be placed by Memorial Day.

Connecticut's roadside parks and picnic areas are being supplied with tables and waste barrels in anticipation of increased vacation travel this summer, while Indiana is constructing 30 new roadside parks which should be completed in June. Indiana, in addition, has set up more than 400 roadside tables.

75 Counties Save Thousands Of Dollars Through Centralized Purchasing

The purchase of equipment, materials and supplies through centralized purchasing departments is saving thousands of dollars annually for the 75 counties using this buying control method, information from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada showed today.

Substantial savings--ranging from \$1,120 on the purchase of fire hose by Arlington county, Va., to \$75,000 a year on the purchase of milk by Los Angeles county--were reported in information gathered through a nationwide survey by the National Association of Purchasing Agents.

Principles of centralized purchasing, under which one office buys supplies for an entire organization, include the development of standards and specifications for supplies, competitive bidding, quantity buying when the market is "right," inspection of purchases and rejection of those not up to specifications.

Counties reporting savings through centralized purchasing include:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, Calif.--Savings made through purchase of drugs and surgical supplies according to specification rather than "brand" amount to more than the entire overhead of the purchasing department. Cooperation and competitive bidding save more than \$75,000 a year in county milk costs.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, Ohio--Asphalt emulsion bought for 5 cents a gallon less than prices paid elsewhere. By buying cement by the carload, \$56 per carload was saved at a rate of 28 cents a barrel.

ARLINGTON COUNTY, Va.--By direct purchase from the factory, the county saves \$1.25 a box on carbon paper formerly costing \$2.40. About \$840 was saved on the county printing bill by contracting separately for paper and the actual printing job.

FAYETTE COUNTY, Pa.--County supplies costing \$16,057 in 1935 were bought for \$8,466 in 1936 under a long-range buying program.

LUCAS COUNTY, Ohio--Competitive bidding, quantity buying of non-perishable supplies, and buying to specification rather than brand resulted in savings of \$33,000 in one year over the previous year.

Other counties reporting successful centralized purchasing departments include Fairfax, Henrico and Roanoke in Virginia; McHenry, Sheridan and Wells counties in North Dakota; San Francisco county, Calif.; and Multnomah county, Ore.

Savings effected by another type of buying--cooperative--were reported by Hamilton county and Cincinnati, O., and Milwaukee county and Milwaukee, Wis. Hamilton county purchases are made jointly with those of the city, the city public school and library systems, and the University of Cincinnati. When the plan first was tried, 100,000 tons of coal were bought at a saving of \$50,000.

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Counties reporting savings through centralized purchasing include:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, Calif.--Savings made through purchase of drugs and glass supplies according to specifications for rather than "standard" amount to more than \$75,000 a year in county milk costs.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, Ohio--Savings made through purchase of 5 cents a gallon less for cement by the county, \$10 per barrel, \$10 per barrel was saved at a rate of 28 cents a barrel.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, Va.--By direct purchase from the factory, the county saves

\$111 by contracting separately for paper and the actual printing job.

RAYMONT COUNTY, Pa.--County supplies costing \$14,000 in 1937 were bought for \$8,466 in 1938 under a long-range buying program.

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Detroit Police Polled On Accident Causes, Cures

Police officers in the city of Detroit, recently polled by Police Commissioner Frank D. Eaman for their theories on the cause and cure of local traffic accidents, put enforcement of traffic ordinances at the top of the list of "cures," the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

Two hundred seventeen of the 260 officers in the Detroit accident prevention bureau and motor division--the two sections of the traffic department--expressed this opinion.

The other most common suggestions for improving traffic safety were: more uniform timing of traffic control devices, a more stringent law protecting pedestrians, and education on traffic rules by radio and newspapers. Stricter tests for driver's licenses and periodic inspection of automobiles also were proposed.

Speed is the most frequent cause of automobile accidents in the opinion of 104 of the 139 accident prevention bureau officers who voted in the poll. Almost three-fourths of the officers in both divisions favored setting maximum speeds for different streets and districts in the city.

Asked whether they considered traffic rules too numerous, three-fourths of the police officers answered "No." Many of those voting said, however, that some of the present rules were ambiguous. Most of the officers did not consider Detroit traffic ordinances too complicated for the ordinary driver.

All but 18 of the traffic officers expressed the belief that most motorists want to obey the traffic regulations.

The views of the police officers were submitted to the city council for use in improving Detroit's accident prevention program.

Police officers in the city of Detroit, recently called by Police Commissioner
D. Egan for their theories on the cause and cure of local traffic accidents, gave
the following answers to the questions asked by the committee:

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Tax Immunity Of Diplomats, Consuls, Difficult To Set Under New Taxes

The increase in the number of sales, use and other excise taxes imposed by the various levels of government in the United States is making it hard for tax administrators to decide which of these taxes diplomatic and consular officers must pay, a study of the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

Diplomats enjoy a fairly wide immunity from taxation under international law, while the exemptions extended to consular officers depend mainly on treaties entered into by the various countries. Diplomatic officers are considered direct personal representatives of their governments, while consular officers are commercial representatives.

The treaties made by the United States, which bind the various state and local governments, usually provide that consuls are exempt from taxes levied on their persons or property, except real property or income from property. They also do not pay income taxes on their official salaries.

The study pointed out that while it is clear that consular officers are exempt from poll taxes and use taxes--since these are imposed on and payable by the person--the status of the other taxes is not so easy for the tax administrator to judge.

Some state sales and gasoline taxes, for example, are laid on the seller as a tax on the privilege of engaging in business. Although it is expected that the amount of tax eventually will be passed along to the consumer, the tax is not laid on the consul's person and therefore, according to the ruling in some states, he must pay such taxes. In other states where the consumer pays the tax directly, consuls have been exempted from sales and gasoline taxes.

As a result of these differences, states do not all act alike on the tax exemptions. In New York, for example, consular officers are exempt from the gasoline tax, but they must pay motor vehicle registration fees. In Maryland, on the other hand, the consuls are exempt from vehicle fees but must pay the excise tax for motor vehicle title certificates.

Where tax exemptions are granted, various methods are used to make the exemption effective. In one state the consul pays the tax and later applies for a refund; in another the tax administrator issues a letter of exemption which the consul shows to the merchant as he makes a purchase.

Hollywood Parking Plan Aids Shoppers, Merchants

A blanket "free-parking-for-patrons" plan, which covers all merchants and parking lots subscribing to it, is Hollywood's unusual method of handling the shopper parking problem, the American Public Works Association reported today.

Under the plan, the Chamber of Commerce of the California city acts as a central clearing house, selling five-cent parking stamps to merchants, who "honor" parking checks by placing the stamps on the back as purchases over \$1.00 are made. The stamps are later redeemed by the Chamber from the parking lot operators.

The Hollywood scheme, the Association noted, overcomes the dissatisfaction with the individual validation procedure involving numerous separately owned parking lots, varying rate schedules and parking time requirements of patrons.

The Chamber of Commerce has been working on a proposal under which the city would acquire title to a large area convenient to the shopping section, to be operated as a parking lot by the Chamber, on a lease basis.

* * *

Three States Make Sales Tax Tokens Interchangeable

Tax tokens by which shoppers pay sales levies in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi are interchangeable in these three states by mutual agreement, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

The exchange feature makes tax collections easier for those who customarily buy in two or more of the states, since both sales and use taxes may be taken care of by the tokens.

In addition to these three states, at least five others use tokens to collect sales levies.

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JOINT REFERENCE

MAY 31 1940

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Typical Councilman Elected On Nonpartisan Ballot

The typical member of a city council in the United States is elected at large on a nonpartisan ballot and is paid about \$150 a year, a survey by the International City Managers' Association showed today.

The survey, which covered nearly all of the 1,807 American cities of more than 5,000 population, showed that about two-thirds of these cities are governed under the mayor-council plan, about one-sixth under the commission plan, and about one-sixth under the council-manager plan. The mayor-council form of government predominates in the largest and smallest city groups. More than half of the medium-size cities--those of 30,000 to 200,000 population--have the council-manager or commission form of government.

The greatest trend toward the use of the nonpartisan ballot for council elections has occurred under the council-manager plan. The survey showed that 87 per cent of the council-manager cities have dropped party labels in municipal elections, as compared with 76 per cent of the commission plan cities, and 40 per cent of the mayor-council cities. The council-manager plan, and, in earlier years, the commission plan have been the most popular vehicles for municipal reform movements during the twentieth century.

The councils are elected at large in about one-third of the mayor-council cities, three-quarters of the council-manager cities, and all of the commission cities.

Councilmen in most cities serve for two to four years. Under the mayor-council and council-manager plans, more than a quarter of the cities do not pay their councilmen, and more than half of the cities of less than 200,000 population pay them less than \$50 a month.

Under the commission plan, however, the members of the governing body have administrative duties and are therefore paid considerably higher salaries. Councilmen generally are paid slightly more under the council-manager than under the mayor-council plan.

Only 20 cities pay their councilmen \$5,000 or more a year. This group includes five mayor-council cities of more than 500,000 population--New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, and Pittsburgh; 13 commission cities of 30,000 to 500,000 population; and the largest council-manager city, Cincinnati.

The survey appears in the 1940 Municipal Year Book.

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the mayor-council cities of more than 200,000 population - New York, Chicago,
Philadelphia, Detroit, and Pittsburgh; 15 commission cities of 50,000 to 200,000

Interstate fishing compact

Interstate Fishing Compacts On Atlantic Seaboard Advanced By Congressional Action

Marine fishing problems affecting the 14 Atlantic seaboard states may be solved more speedily and with a minimum of trouble if plans calling for creation of an interstate Marine Fisheries commission and for interstate compacts are completed.

A big step in the cooperative program already has been made with approval by the U.S. Senate May 28 of a House joint resolution giving the states permission to set up the commission and enter into the compacts subject to Congressional approval.

The Marine Fisheries commission, if established through agreement with the states, would be composed of 28 members--two from each state--with advisory powers only. The commission would study recommendations made by the various states as to methods, or types of regulations, best designed to preserve the fishing industry and maintain the highest annual catch possible.

The commission would have as its advisors not only the fish conservation technicians from each state and the U.S. bureau of fisheries, but also a committee of sport and commercial fishermen of all kinds. When conservation plans and recommendations have been presented by each state, every fisherman and commercial concern affected would have opportunity to make his views clear to the state legislative committees which pass upon such proposed laws.

The states themselves, through interstate cooperation committees or commissions, would be empowered under the plan to negotiate and enter into reciprocal agreements best suited for bringing about more uniform regulations along the coastline.

The Council pointed out that many meetings have been held by state representatives in laying the groundwork for the cooperative program. Two conferences have been held in Boston, two in New York and one in Charleston. Representatives of state fisheries and cooperation commissions attended, and programs were worked out.

The 14 states along the Atlantic seaboard are Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Public Health

Ten States Enrolled In Cancer Control Programs

Cancer control measures, which experts say might save 35,000 lives each year in the United States if applied thoroughly throughout the country, are being initiated this year by four states as the result of recent legislation, the Council of State Governments reported today.

With the new programs in Illinois, South Carolina, Vermont and Wisconsin, 10 states are now enrolled in efforts to eradicate the disease, which is the second major cause of death in the country. The other six states are Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania.

The functions of a cancer control division are to organize and integrate all the forces in the state that can help reduce cancer mortality.

The New York state division of cancer control, which has been collecting reports on cancer cases since Jan. 1 under new legislation, has announced that the cooperation of doctors and hospitals has enabled it to list 12,000 cases for scientific analysis.

A division of cancer control and a cancer diagnostic service have just been set up in the Illinois department of health, under provisions of a new state law. The law also created an advisory board for the cancer control division which is empowered to receive and expend voluntary contributions.

The new South Carolina law authorizes the state board of health to establish standards for the conduct of cancer units in general hospitals, to provide aid to indigent cancer victims, and to carry on an educational campaign.

Vermont's new state cancer commission will conduct cancer clinics throughout the state and also care for indigent cancer sufferers. Wisconsin's statute provides for an annual appropriation of \$10,000 for research into the causes, prevention and cure of the disease.

The National Cancer Institute, which is housed in a new building in Bethesda, Md., near Washington, D.C., was set up under the U.S. Public Health Service in 1937 to foster and coordinate research and to cooperate with state agencies in the prevention, control and eradication of cancer.

Cancer control measures, which experts say might save 25,000 lives each year in the United States if applied thoroughly throughout the country, are being initiated this year by four states as the result of recent legislation, the Council of State Governments reported today.

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with state agencies in the prevention

Thompson White

Good Bookkeeping Improves Use Of Municipal Motor Equipment

Continued

Four plans by which cities may make the most effective use of all departmental automobiles and other vehicles are set forth in a manual on accounting for government-owned motor equipment issued today by the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada.

Lack of a proper equipment accounting system is responsible, in a large number of municipalities, for inaccurate records of the cost of various operations, the manual said. As a result, expenses for equipment are distributed mostly by guess, with one department charged one year for use of equipment, and another, the next, for the same piece.

Small towns, with few pieces of motor equipment, usually must follow a plan under which equipment is maintained by the department that owns it, which the manual calls Plan I. Larger jurisdictions, however, may find suitable one of the following three plans, already in use by various municipalities:

Plan II--A centralized equipment maintenance service. Under this plan a single municipal garage provides operating supplies and maintenance service for municipal motor equipment at cost. Each operating department buys, keeps, and assigns its own equipment. The general accounting office keeps equipment expense records. The municipal garage saves money by pooling the purchases of gasoline and other operating supplies.

Plan III--A centralized equipment maintenance service and partial taxi service. Municipalities which find that certain departments need additional equipment on a part-time basis during rush or peak periods have set up this kind of service, provided with certain equipment which is rented on a taxi basis. The general accounting office keeps the records and establishes rental rates to distribute the expenses of operating and maintaining the equipment.

Plan IV--Centralized transportation service. This is a completely centralized service under the direction of a supervisor. Drivers and operators as well as equipment and vehicles are supplied at rental rates. The service has complete responsibility for the procurement, custody, care and maintenance, and assignment of all equipment. The general accounting office keeps the equipment expense records as under the other plans.

The various types of records and procedures necessary in keeping books on motor equipment are explained in the manual, which points out that the most satisfactory way to distribute equipment expenses is to charge for the units of service performed, such as miles or hours run.

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Plan II--A centralized equipment maintenance service and partial tax. Municipalities which find that certain departments need additional equipment, such as fire, police, health, and other departments, may set up this kind of service. Each operating department buys, leases, and maintains its own equipment. The general accounting office keeps equipment expense records. The municipal garage saves money by pooling the purchases of gasoline and other operating supplies.

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CONFIDENTIAL

15 City, Seven State Law Enforcement Agencies Use Lie Detector

Law enforcement agencies of 15 American cities, seven states and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are using the polygraph--more commonly known as the lie detector--to reveal criminals and, more important, to eliminate innocent persons from suspicion, information from the International City Managers' Association showed today.

The cities are Berkeley, Calif.; Chicago, Elgin, Evanston and Wheaton, Ill.; Indianapolis, Wichita, Kansas City, St. Louis, Buffalo, Cincinnati, East Cleveland, Toledo, San Antonio and Honolulu. The states are Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

Besides testing crime suspects, the lie detector is used by police agencies in testing persons who have knowledge of a crime and who can be of aid in locating and convicting the actual offender; checking fictitious reports of burglaries, robberies and other offenses made to cover defalcations; and checking witnesses whose testimony is believed false, colored, prejudicial or biased.

In Evanston and Wichita, applicants for positions on the police force must take a lie detector test, as must applicants for civil service positions in East Cleveland. The Chicago Park District commission uses the polygraph in examining policemen against whom charges are placed, or who are under suspicion.

While it is difficult to estimate the money saved by use of the polygraph in police investigation, Lieut. Harold Mulbar of the Michigan state police estimated that Michigan was saved \$25,000 in trial costs alone in 1938. Lieut. Mulbar tested 253 persons in 1938; 69 confessed, 35 ran records indicating guilt, and 129 were cleared.

Although the common concept is that the lie detector catches criminals, its most valuable use in both the police and commercial fields is in the elimination of innocent persons, according to the Association. Expensive investigations also are minimized in many cases. For example, the Wichita police department reports that of 1,551 persons tested in 1938, 1,163 were found to have clear records. Of all the persons tested, 363 showed signs of deception and, of these, 221 confessed.

The polygraph, used first by Berkeley in 1921, measures and records the subject's breathing, changes in his pulse rate and blood pressure, and minute electrical changes in the apparent resistance of the skin. All these bodily responses are recorded simultaneously on a moving strip of paper, or graph, which is interpreted by trained operators.

Law enforcement agencies of 15 American cities, seven states and the
Federal Bureau of Investigation are using the polygraph more commonly known as the
detector--to reveal criminals and, more important, to eliminate innocent persons

The cities are Berkeley, Calif.; Chicago, Ill.; Houston, Texas; Kansas City, Mo.;
Los Angeles, Calif.; Miami, Fla.; New York, N.Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; St. Louis, Mo.;
San Antonio, Texas; San Francisco, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; St. Paul, Minn.;
Tulsa, Okla.; and Wichita, Kan.

The states are Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, North
Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Besides testing crime suspects, the detector is used by police agencies
to identify persons who have knowledge of a crime and who can be of aid in locating
the actual offender; checking fictitious reports of burglaries;
checking other persons who have been identified; and checking witnesses whose
statements are collected from, collected, prepared or dictated.

In Houston and Wichita, applicants for positions on the police force must
take a detector test, as must applicants for civil service positions in those
cities. The Chicago Park District commission uses the detector in connection
with its recruitment program, or the one under application.

While it is difficult to estimate the cost, saved by use of the detector
in police investigation, Ident. Harold Brown of the Michigan State Police estimated
that Michigan has saved \$25,000 in trial costs alone in 1938. Last year alone
persons in 1938: 69 sentenced, 31 non-convicted including girls, and 100 were

Although the common concept is that the detector catches only the guilty,
valuable use in both the police and commercial fields is in the elimination of
false persons, according to the Association. Extensive investigation has been
made in many cases. For example, the Wichita police department reported that of
persons tested in 1936, 1,142 were found to have clear records. Of all the
persons tested, 363 showed signs of deception and, of these, 282 sentenced.
The polygraph, used first by Berkeley in 1931, mentioned and recorded the
changes in his pulse rate and blood pressure, and other
changes in the apparent resistance of the skin. All these bodily responses

Public Administration

Waterworks

Wisconsin Town Combines Beauty, Utility In Water Tower Housing City Hall

Construction of a water tower building containing not only a million-gallon tank and a pumping station but all municipal offices, including the council chambers, business offices, jail cells, heating plant, repair shop and stock room, has met requirements of beauty and utility in the town of Lake, Wis.

Equal in height to a nine-story building and costing approximately \$160,000, the entire tower from the second floor up is encased in architectural concrete, forming an octagonal structure, according to information from the American Public Works Association. The ground floor includes four one-story wings, built around the tower base, which contain municipal offices. The roofs of these wings may be flooded in summer with 55-degree water for cooling purposes.

The water tank, 65 feet in diameter, is in the upper half of the tower; below it are four floors of offices. The town jail is on the third floor, and the town council chambers on the second floor. The basement houses the deep-well and booster-pumps control equipment, heating plant, water works, repair shop, and stock room. Pumproom walls are soundproofed.

In compliance with federal aeronautics regulations, the tower is well lighted at night, and a red flasher beacon operates on top. The tower-city hall was constructed as part of a project modernizing the town's water works system.

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Wisconsin State Waterworks

Safety Slogans Used On Highway Police Mail In Michigan

Four kinds of safety slogan cancellation stamps, carried on all mail sent by the Michigan state police department, serve to bring safety precautions to the attention of road-users, the International Association of Chiefs of Police noted today.

The first postage meter stamp of this type was put into use in Michigan about a year ago. It is a drawing of a racing car captioned by the warning: "Let the racer do the speeding--drive safely."

The second stamp, warning pedestrians to walk on the left side of the highway, was put into use a few months later. The two more recent stamps call the bicycle rider's attention to the equipment required for his vehicle, and warn the driver on a four-lane highway to stay in the outside lane except when passing or turning left.

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Construction of a water tower building containing not only a million-gallon

and a pumping station but all municipal offices, including one council chamber,

business offices, jail cells, heating plant, repair shop and stock room, has met

of beauty and utility in the town of Lake, Wis.

Equal in height to a nine-story building and costing approximately \$300,000,

the entire tower from the second floor up is encased in architectural concrete, forming

an octagonal structure, according to its location from the American Public Works

Association. The ground floor includes four one-story wings, built around the tower

base, which contain municipal offices. The roofs of these wings may be flooded in

The water tank, 55 feet in diameter, is on the upper part of the tower;

below it are three floors of offices. The town hall is on the third floor, and the

town council chamber on the second floor. The basement houses the deep-well and

basement wells are underground.

In compliance with Federal requirements regarding the tower is well

at night, and a new flasher beacon operates on top. The tower's half was

as part of a project modernizing the town's water works system.

It is now being built on the site of the old town hall.

Four kinds of safety signs, including on all main roads by

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JUN 6 1940

JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY

West Virginia Voters To Consider Abolition Of J.P. Courts

"J.P." courts and their attendant constables will be eliminated in West Virginia if a proposed constitutional amendment is approved in the November election, the Council of State Governments reported today.

The amendment would revamp the present state judiciary system, mainly through abolishing the positions of 599 justices of the peace, whose principal duties are to settle minor disputes, issue warrants, and determine bail, and of 585 constables. The proposal was approved by the legislature in 1939.

Criticism of the justice's office in West Virginia, as in many other states, is that it is inefficient and outmoded. Since the justice gets a fee for each case he hears, he has an incentive to create speed traps or encourage law suits, the Council said.

Because of the overlapping jurisdictions of justice courts and city police courts in West Virginia, the duties of justices, constables, city police, state police, and county sheriffs often conflict, "creating a situation that may result in shifting responsibility and uncertain justice," the report said.

To replace the justice's court, the new amendment proposes a "summary court" for each county in the state. The sheriff and his deputies would serve as administrative agents to the new court in lieu of constables. The summary court could sit anywhere in the county unless the legislature provided otherwise, and would be open continuously for business. Its jury in criminal cases would have only six members, instead of the 12 in the justice's court.

Jurisdiction of the summary court would extend to civil actions concerning \$500 or less, instead of those up to \$300 as in the present justice's court. Judgments of the summary court could be reviewed in the circuit court on appeal or writ of error, and could be carried to the Supreme Court of Appeals. All felony cases would go to the circuit court.

Judges of the summary courts would be elected for four-year terms. They would be compensated by salaries instead of fees.

The West Virginia amendment is one of the few of its kind submitted to the voters, although dissatisfaction with the justice of peace office is widespread, the Council said. Davidson county, Tenn., abolished justices' courts in 1937, replacing them with courts of general session with appointed judges. Several Virginia counties, by state consent, have supplanted justices of the peace with appointed trial justices within recent years.

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"J.P." courts and their attendant constables will be eliminated in West

The Council of State Government reported today.

through abolishing the positions of 292 justices of the peace, whose principal duties

and to settle minor disputes, issue warrants, and determine bail, and of 282

constables. The proposal was approved by the legislature in 1900.

Criticism of the Justice's office in West Virginia, as in many other states,

has been growing for many years. It is now being

renewed with increased vigor. The

present system is being

criticized on the basis of expense, inefficiency, and

the fact that the Justice's office is a relic of the

police, and county sheriffs often conflict, "creating a situation that may result in

shifting responsibility and uncertain Justice," the report said.

To replace the Justice's office, the new amendment proposes a "summary court"

to be composed of three judges, one of whom will be

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Joyce

55,000 Parcels Of Land Returned To Michigan Tax Rolls Through "Scavenger" Sales

More than 55,000 parcels of land have been returned to local tax rolls in Michigan since Feb. 13 through "scavenger" sales of land which had reverted to the state because of tax delinquency, the American Society of Planning Officials said today. The parcels of land are being sold at auctions in 35 lower peninsula counties under provisions of a law passed by the state legislature last year.

In addition to reinstating this land on the tax rolls--where it again may become a source of revenue--local governmental units will divide most of the proceeds of the sales, which to date total about \$5,000,000. However, the Society said this figure does not begin to approximate the sums lost through tax delinquencies, which were cancelled when the state gained title to the land.

The "scavenger" sales are conducted under supervision of the new state land board created by a 1939 law. Less than half of the 425,000 tax-reverted parcels in the 35 counties were offered for sale, and the sales have been virtually completed in all but three counties. At present the land board is issuing deeds to successful bidders.

The Society said that, under terms of the statute, a bid will not be accepted if it is less than 25 per cent of the assessed value of the land for the last year before the state gained title. Municipalities may bid for lands they want for public purposes, and may ask that sale of any parcel be delayed a year if they plan to purchase it later. Former owners have 30 days after the public sale to meet the highest bid and thus regain the land, and have the especial privilege of buying on installments.

Recent figures on the land sales show that 2,790 cash sales were made to former owners for approximately \$202,000, and that 35,000 installment sales were made which will bring in a total of \$2,500,000. Cash sales to "outsiders," of which there were 15,645, brought in approximately \$1,750,000.

It was pointed out that approximately 6,000 former land owners have regained their land by matching the bids of other would-be purchasers.

The sales records show that Oakland and Wayne (Detroit) counties are far in the lead in parcels of land sold, and cash or prospective revenues obtained. In Oakland county, 3,125 cash sales have brought in \$475,187, while 10,310 installment sales will bring in \$986,500. The Wayne county figures show that \$127,868 was obtained through 2,458 cash sales, and \$525,242 is expected from 17,047 installment sales.

The "scavenger" sales, which will continue next year, mark the first time since 1881 that Michigan has attempted on such a scale to clean up widespread tax delinquency. A similar land sale was held then, but no especial privileges were given former land owners at the time, and no minimum price was fixed.

More than 25,000 parcels of land have been returned to local tax rolls in
under provisions of a law passed by the state legislature last year.
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figure does not begin to approximate the sums lost through tax delinquencies, which
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The "saverager" sales are conducted under supervision of the new state law
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former owners for approximately \$200,000, and that 25,000 installment sales were made
with all sales in a total of \$1,750,000. The state gained title to the land
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The "saverager" sales will continue until the state has gained title to all the land
that has been returned to local tax rolls. The state gained title to the land when
the former owners failed to pay their taxes. The state gained title to the land when
the former owners failed to pay their taxes.

Salaries Of Municipal Officials Nearly Back To 1930 Level

Salaries of municipal officials, which generally suffered cuts from 1930 to 1934, are now back almost to the 1930 level, results of a nationwide survey showed today.

The Municipal Year Book, which lists the salaries of 11 administrative officials in five groups of cities classified according to population, showed that about half the officials in two of the groups are receiving even slightly higher pay now than in 1930. The yearbook is issued by the International City Managers' Association.

Average salaries of the mayor, director of public works, fire and police chiefs, and city attorney in cities of over 500,000 population showed this increase. For cities of 30,000-50,000 population, also, the average salaries for mayor, finance officer, librarian, director of public works, and city attorney in 1940 are above those for 1930.

Other average salaries which are higher this year than they were in 1930 are those of assessor, librarian, fire and police chiefs in cities of 300,000-500,000 population; and those of school superintendent and health officer in cities of 100,000-200,000. Current salaries for other officials are below those of 1930, most of them by a small margin.

The salary reductions taken by the various categories of municipal officers, as shown by 1934 figures compared with 1930, amounted to \$1,585 in one case, although most of the cuts were from \$400 to \$800.

Figures on finance officers' salaries from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association for the period 1926-1939 show that nearly half of the salaries are higher now than in 1926, which is taken as a "normal" year, but two-thirds of them are lower than in the "boom" year 1929. For the whole period, one-fifth of the cases show no change at all, receiving the same salaries now that they received in 1926.

Salaries of municipal officials, which generally suffered cuts from 1910 to 1930, are now back almost to the 1930 level, results of a nationwide survey showed.

The Municipal Year Book, which lists the salaries of 11 administrative groups in five groups of cities classified according to population, shows that half the officials in two of the groups are receiving even slightly higher pay.

Average salaries of the mayor, director of public works, fire and police chiefs, and city attorney in cities of over 200,000 population showed that for cities of 50,000-200,000 population, also, the average salaries for mayor, director of public works, fire and police chiefs, and city attorney in 1940 are above those for 1930.

Other average salaries which are higher this year than they were in 1930 are those of assessor, librarian, fire and police chiefs in cities of 20,000-50,000 population. Current salaries for other officials are below those of 1930, most of them.

The salary reductions taken by the various categories of municipal officials

for the period 1926-1939 show that nearly half of the salaries are higher in 1940 than in 1926, which is taken as a "normal" year, but two-thirds of them are lower. For the whole period, one-fifth of the salaries show no

Licenses Business

For collection

Minnesota Cities May Require Payment Of Back Taxes Before Granting Licenses

Minnesota cities have authority to enact ordinances requiring payment of delinquent personal property and real estate taxes before a license will be granted, under a recent opinion by the Minnesota attorney-general's office.

Under such an ordinance, operators of businesses which require licenses must pay up all delinquent taxes before being allowed the privilege of doing business in the city, according to information from the American Municipal Association.

While the constitutionality of such an ordinance has not been passed on by Minnesota courts, decisions involving state laws indicate a tendency to uphold legislation of this kind, according to the ruling.

One decision cited by the opinion was handed down by the supreme court of Hawaii, which held that a statute requiring payment of taxes as condition to obtaining an occupational license was valid even though it required payment of taxes that became due before enactment of the law.

In answer to the argument that the statute in effect combined the taxing and police powers of the government in a manner contrary to the U.S. Constitution, the Hawaiian high court said, "There is no good reason why a single statute should not include the exercise of both the power of taxation and the police power."

In another case, according to the opinion, it was stated that as a general rule "a statute denying to delinquent taxpayers civil rights not specifically secured by the Constitution is valid."

One Minnesota case cited upheld state laws of 1878 and 1874 requiring payment of delinquent taxes before a deed could be filed for record, and payment of taxes for local improvements before a deed could be recorded with the register of deeds.

The Kentucky supreme court, in 1935, upheld an ordinance of the city of Somerset requiring payment of "all taxes, assessments and other financial claims of the city" before a liquor license could be granted. The enactment of additional requirements had been authorized by the state alcoholic liquor control act.

The Association pointed out that 14 states require motorists to produce evidence that property taxes on their automobiles have been paid before licenses will be granted. The states are Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

In addition, Maryland last year increased from 20 to more than 60 the number of cities in which a motorist will not be given a license unless he presents a receipt for his city property taxes.

Officials of the states requiring evidence of tax payments say the requirement has resulted in a substantial reduction in delinquencies involving property of this type.

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MINNESOTA TAXATION AND LICENSING

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delinquent before enactment of the law.

In answer to the argument that the statute in effect deprived the taxing and
police powers of the government to a manner contrary to the U.S. Constitution, the
Hawthorne high court said, "There is no good reason why a statute should not
be enacted which gives the power of taxation and the police power."

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Louisville requiring payment of "all taxes, assessments and other financial claims of
the city" before a liquor license could be granted. The amount of additional
assessments had been authorized by the state legislative body.

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of cities in which a motorist will not be given a license unless he presents a receipt

Assessment method

Single State Agency Recommended For Assessment Equalization

Establishment of a single state agency to take care of the equalization of property assessments is recommended in a report submitted today to the National Association of Assessing Officers by its Committee on Assessment Organization and Personnel.

At present, 24 states have such statewide equalization agencies, while 14 states have both state and county agencies and 10 other states have no equalization agencies at all.

In "equalizing" assessments, the agency raises or lowers the assessed valuation of all property--or all property of a particular type--throughout a tax district. It does so for a number of reasons, but especially to make each district pay its fair share of a state property tax. Equalization agencies, the committee pointed out, are quite different from boards of assessment review, which--although often called "boards of equalization"--adjust the valuations of individual pieces of property rather than of whole tax districts or classes of property.

To remove the need for county equalization agencies, which number close to 1,000 and are found only in states with township assessment districts, the committee recommends enlargement of assessment districts, coordination of the work of deputy assessors, and expansion of the activities of state equalization agencies.

A state equalization agency, the committee said, should be maintained by any state that imposes taxes on the basis of local assessed valuations, that distributes funds to local governments according to a formula involving local assessed valuations or local tax rates, or that assesses some property for taxation at local rates.

Members of an equalization board, the committee contends, should be chosen at large and not as representatives of particular districts within the jurisdiction of the board. "Persons serving the equalization district as a whole are much more likely to be scientific in their methods and objective in their decisions," in the committee's opinion.

The report also recommends that most equalization agencies be given powers of assessment review. An exception is made for such states as Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Ohio, where a state board of tax appeals has been created for assessment review purposes and local assessors are supervised by the state tax commissioner. Under such circumstances, the committee believes that the state tax commissioner should serve as the equalization agency.

New Jersey Crime Record "Libraries" To Benefit All State Police Agencies

A statewide system of crime record "libraries" is under development in New Jersey for the use of every law enforcement agency in the state, according to information from the International Association of Chiefs of Police today. The work is proceeding under direction of the state bureau of identification.

An incentive for the program was the enactment last year of a state law making it mandatory for all state law enforcement agencies to forward to their county and state bureaus of identification complete information on indictable crimes committed. The law, which becomes effective Sept. 1, was enacted to permit the collection and correlation of all information relative to crime in county and state bureaus.

County bureaus are responsible for collecting data for their crime libraries, while the state bureau must collect information for the state as a whole. When completely developed, the system of libraries will provide accurate information on total offenses committed--location, character, or nature of the crime--offenses cleared by arrests, and final disposition.

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Municipal ownership

Cleveland Asphalt Plant Built Under Unusual Contract Provisions

Unusual contract conditions governing construction of Cleveland's new \$200,000 asphalt plant were reported today in information from the American Public Works Association. The contract was awarded on the basis of the lowest annual cost of operations over a 10-year period, rather than on the original cost of the plant. It was pointed out that the successful bidder submitted the highest initial plant cost.

Annual costs considered in awarding the contract included plant depreciation over the 10-year period as determined by the initial cost of the plant, and costs of operation as guaranteed by the contractor. A 30-day performance test made after completion of the plant showed that actual operation costs were about \$400 a year less than the contractor's guarantee. Had they been higher than the guarantee, the cost of the plant to the city would have been reduced.

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LIBRARY SYSTEM FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Local records maintain accurate information on offenses in

1900,000 records. These are reported to the state bureau of identification

with accuracy. The records are stored in the hands of the state bureau

of identification. These records are used in the state

to identify the state and the records are used in the state

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JOINT REFERENCE

LIBRARY JUN 12 1940
Last 10 Years Busiest Period In American History For State Legislatures

The last 10 years have been the busiest period for state legislatures in American history, the Council of State Governments reported today. During this period state legislators worked overtime in more special sessions than in any other period in efforts to meet unusual demands resulting, for the most part, from the depression.

The Council's report, covering the 14 years from 1927 to the present, shows there have been 252 special sessions since 1930. This was in addition to regular legislative sessions, held every other year in most states.

The period of most intense state legislative activity was in 1933, when 43 special sessions were held in addition to 43 regular sessions. This was the year, apparently, that the states became aware of the magnitude of problems arising from industrial dislocation and unemployment. Also, the repeal of prohibition created liquor control problems which many states sought to solve in special sessions.

The subjects of unemployment relief, public works, state recovery laws and liquor control were carried over into 1934 special sessions, of which 38 were called, according to the Council. New taxes were considered to cope with dwindling revenues.

Forty-six special sessions were held in 1936--three more than in 1933--but legislators were concerned primarily with only one subject--the shaping of state legislation to fit requirements of the federal social security program. It was pointed out that in 1936 the 46 special sessions held by 33 states were in session officially for a total of 1,420 days, which equals almost four years.

For the entire 14-year period, 281 special sessions were held--seven in 1927, 11 in 1928, 11 in 1929, 10 in 1930, 26 in 1931, 20 in 1932, 43 in 1933, 38 in 1934, 17 in 1935, 46 in 1936, 23 in 1937, 18 in 1938, five in 1939 and six in 1940.

The 1940 total may be increased with the development of an emergency national defense program, which may require supplementary state legislation before the year is out, the Council said.

Illinois and Texas lead, with 19 each, in the number of special sessions called during the 14-year period, according to the Council. Fourteen were called by Louisiana, 12 by Ohio, and 10 each by Arizona and Kentucky. Nevada was the only state holding only one special session during the 14 years.

It was pointed out that there were years in which 12 states held three or more special sessions each; New Jersey held five in 1931 to lead this list. Illinois, however, held four in 1932, three in 1934 and four in 1936.

Length of special sessions varied from one day in New York and Rhode Island to 362 days in Ohio. The Ohio session started in 1935 and ended in 1936--the longest continuous session.

Part I. Legislative Period in American History for 1900-1940

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session started in 1900 and ended in 1935--the longest

Pensions - Old age - Legislative

Four States Increase Maximum Grants For Old Age Assistance

Four states--Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi and Virginia--can give more liberal assistance to their needy aged as a result of 1940 legislation, the American Public Welfare Association reported today.

Topped by Illinois, which raised "pension" maximums from \$30 to \$40 a person per month, Kentucky and Mississippi increased maximum grants from \$15 to \$30, while Virginia struck out a provision in its old age assistance act which had included any and all income of the person aided in the \$20-a-month maximum grant.

A \$30-a-month maximum in 26 states is the common provision, according to the Association. Four other states allow \$30 a month to needy aged individuals, but provide \$45 to \$60 for married couples. Alabama, another \$30-state, allows a maximum of \$50 a month to needy aged veterans. A number of the states include in their maximums any private income of the individual.

Six states and the District of Columbia set no statutory limit on old age assistance. The states are Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico and New York. This does not mean, however, that the aid actually given is limitless; in fact, one of these states makes the lowest actual average grants in the country.

The highest grant of state old age assistance to individuals is specified by Colorado, which with Alaska, sets a maximum of \$45 a month. Prior to the Illinois increase, California, New Jersey and Wisconsin provided for maximum grants of \$40 in 1939 amendments anticipating the increase of federal contributions to \$20 per person. Wyoming, specifying aid "sufficient for decency and health"--estimated at about \$30--in a 1939 amendment, provided also that "any increase in federal grants may be followed by an increase in the amount of assistance."

Connecticut specified \$9.00 a week. Below the \$30-a-month allowance are five states which specify from \$20 to \$25 a month.

A majority of the states grant medical and hospital care in addition to the cash allowance, though in varying amounts.

While only a few of the states have raised old age assistance allowances since their plans were first set up a few years ago, approximately half of them, through amendments passed in 1939 and 1940, have liberalized residence requirements, removed citizenship specifications or permitted larger income and property exemptions. In four or five other states, certain of these requirements have been made stricter.

Actual amounts of aid in the various states as of March, 1940, showed an average of \$20.15 per recipient for all the states. The highest average grant was in Colorado--\$39.67. California followed close behind with \$38. Payments in 23 states and territories were above the national average--four of them by only a few cents--and 28 states paid less than the \$20.15 as an average grant.

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Public Welfare Association reported today.

Topped by Illinois, which raised "general" maximum from \$45 to \$55 a month, Kentucky and Mississippi increased maximum grants from \$45 to \$55, while Alaska struck out a provision in its old age assistance act which had included any all income of the person added in the \$50-a-month maximum grant.

A \$50-a-month maximum in 26 states is the common provision, according to the Association. Four other states allow \$30 a month to needy aged individuals, but provide \$45 to \$60 for married couples. Alabama, another 11-state, allows a maximum of \$40 a month to needy aged veterans. A number of the states in 1939 in their laws any private income of the individual.

Six states and the District of Columbia set no maximum limit on old age assistance. The states are Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico and New York. This does not mean, however, that the aid actually given is unlimited; in fact, one of these states makes the lowest normal average grants in the country.

The highest grant of state old age assistance to individuals is specified by Idaho, which with Alaska, sets a maximum of \$75 a month. Idaho is the Illinois, Nevada, New Jersey and Wisconsin provided for maximum grants of \$40 in

Wyoming, specifying aid "sufficient for decency and health"—estimated at about \$30--in a 1939 amendment, provided also that "any increase in federal grants may be followed by an increase in the amount of assistance."

Connecticut specified \$2.00 a week. Below the \$30-a-month allowance are five states which specify from \$20 to \$25 a month.

A majority of the states grant medical and hospital care in addition to the cash allowance, though in varying amounts.

While only a few of the states have raised old age assistance allowances, their plans were first set up a few years ago, approximately half of them. Amendments passed in 1939 and 1940 have liberalized resource requirements, citizenship specifications or permitted larger income and property exemptions.

Actual amounts of aid in the various states as of March, 1940, showed an

Connecticut State Police Installs New High Frequency Broadcasting Equipment

When the Connecticut state police department completes installation of frequency modulation radio equipment in its 10 stations, it will become the first state to set up a complete state-wide network operating on the ultra-high frequency radio band, a report to the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today.

Frequency modulation equipment already has been installed in Hartford barracks, key station of the Connecticut radio system, and State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey says work is being pushed to complete installations in the remaining stations and in 250 mobile (squad car) two-way units.

Frequency modulation--usually called "F-M"--is a new broadcasting method with certain advantages over now standard (amplitude modulation) broadcasting, although its range does not exceed 100 miles. By operating on an ultra-high frequency, the system eliminates the usual radio interference--either man-made or atmospheric.

Commissioner Hickey said the high frequency system has made it possible to use the two-way service which heretofore was impractical because of the large areas involved and the hilly terrain.

The range of one- and two-way equipment operated under standard broadcasting was only about 15 miles in Connecticut's hilly terrain, Commissioner Hickey said. This range has been doubled by F-M, and by picking locations on tops of hills it can be extended to 50 miles. Under different geographical conditions--in level country, for example--the range would be longer.

The fact that Connecticut's state police cars operate on one frequency and fixed stations on another would suggest serious interference problems under an amplitude system. "But here frequency modulation comes to the fore," the Commissioner said. "It is a fact that in using F-M the strongest signal takes control to the complete exclusion of the weaker. In other words, as soon as a local car comes in, it has the stronger signal and completely eliminates the interfering signal of another car in a territory farther away.

"This elimination of the weaker signal is one of frequency modulation's contributions to the emergency services. It is possible to operate two stations on the same frequency and hear only the stronger one. Of course, noise suppression is F-M's largest contribution, and it is because of this that we are obtaining such results."

Regarding the cost of frequency modulation equipment, Commissioner Hickey said: "We find the cost of the equipment to be about the same as existing amplitude equipment. Our operating costs will be lower, however, as we do not use over 250 watts at any of the 10 stations, and all stations are operated by remote-control to permit elimination of attendants."

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Municipal Housing Agencies Report To Citizens

Municipal housing authorities are using their annual reports to acquaint citizens of their communities with details of new low-rent dwelling programs, a survey by the National Association of Housing Officials showed today.

Most of the reports from the 24 representative housing authorities included in the survey are first summaries of their activities, recording from one to four years' accomplishments. To spread this information throughout the community, many of the authorities distributed copies of the reports to civic groups, newspapers, libraries and welfare agencies, as well as to city officials and other citizens particularly interested in low-cost housing.

The Yonkers, N.Y., and Atlanta authorities made a special point of sending their reports to school classes, and the Vincennes, Ind., authority supplied copies to colleges and universities in the state. Both the Atlanta and New York City authorities printed 5,000 copies of their reports, and several other agencies issued more than 1,000.

In general the reports cover the program of the public housing agency, showing slum conditions, community housing surveys, building code revisions and court decisions and legislation. Most of them give fairly detailed pictures of financial operations and tell the story of project development and operation from the time the site was selected to the current status of rent collections. Many of the reports stress the importance of rebuilding and rehabilitation as well as new construction in local low-cost housing programs.

The reports differ widely in size and style. The Harrison, N.J., authority, for example, issued a 3-page report, while the authority in Oakland, Calif., wrote 74 pages. The average report was 25 pages. About half the reports were printed; others were mimeographed or otherwise reproduced. Many of the reports were liberally illustrated with charts and "before and after" pictures.

The municipalities whose reports were analyzed included: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, N.C., Chicago, Cincinnati, Daytona Beach, Fla., Delaware county, Ind., Fall River, Mass., Fort Worth, Harrison, N.J., Kokomo, Ind., Los Angeles, Memphis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York City, Oakland, Calif., Peoria, Philadelphia, Raleigh, Vincennes, Ind., Washington, D.C., and Yonkers, N.Y.

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Inventory Control Systems Give Cities Close Check On Supplies

In an effort to apply the best business practices to government, more and more governmental administrators are establishing control of materials and supplies through inventory systems, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada said today in a new manual on inventory procedure.

A number of cities, counties and states, according to the Association, have learned that accurate accounting for expenses is practically impossible without proper inventory control, and that this control furthers the most economical use of all materials and supplies.

An inventory system is important to the success of centralized purchasing, the Association said in citing the experience of one city which believed it was saving money through large quantity buying until it installed an inventory accounting system and found that obsolete materials and supplies worth \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 had been stored in departmental warehouses and yards.

A good inventory control system, according to the manual, requires that one office check the quantities and values of all materials and supplies received, and that these accounts be entered in the general ledger. It is also necessary to make an actual physical count of materials periodically, in order to verify the inventory records.

To set up such an inventory system, governmental administrators are advised to have all requisitions for materials and supplies submitted to the storeroom in order to determine whether materials wanted are on hand. Adequate facilities, centralized where practical, are necessary for storage. Other requisites are the keeping of inventory records in the general accounting office, which should be responsible for their audit, and the keeping of a "stores ledger" sheet or card for each kind of material carried in the inventory.

Inventory accounting records should be as simple as possible and still provide the information required for effective control, the manual said. A system of inventory control for tools and material on construction and "roving" jobs is described in the manual, along with plans for financing and accounting for the operation of storerooms and storeyards.

The count and inspection of stored supplies should be a continuous process, the manual noted. Book balances showing materials on hand must be verified frequently if inventory control is to be effective.

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Radio "Traffic Tribunal" Brings Results In San Francisco Safety Campaign

The "Traffic Tribunal," an unusual traffic safety radio program which asks the public for criticisms, suggestions and questions, plays an important part in the Los Angeles police department's safety campaign, a report to the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today. The program has 115,000 regular listeners, according to the report.

Broadcasts are made every Saturday night--and two officers of the department's Collision Prevention bureau answer questions and complaints received by mail from listeners, and discuss suggestions and problems on traffic safety.

As a feature of the program, the safety bureau investigates every report on locations which need signals, more police protection or other regulations. If a motorist reports that a bush or a tree limb hides a certain traffic sign, the safety squad looks into the situation. A report that traffic signals are timed too short for an aged person to cross the street may bring a readjustment of the signal.

The radio program is an attempt to bring about a more direct relationship between the citizen and his city government, safety bureau officials say. "Few persons know the proper place to call to report complaints, and by the time they have been switched to half a dozen different offices they have just about lost patience. Citizens may write their complaints or suggestions on a penny postcard and mail it to the radio station. We do the rest."

* * *

Neon-Lighted Traffic Lines Given Trial By Arkansas City

Neon-lighted traffic lines, consisting of neon tubing placed under a red transparent covering of plastic material embedded in the pavement, are being tried in Little Rock, Ark., according to information to the American Public Works Association today. The units of light, 30 to 60 inches in length, are said to be clearly visible through heavy fog, rain, and the glare of oncoming headlights.

Test installations of neon-lighted traffic lines soon may be made on Arkansas state highways, according to the report. If this is done, the units will be placed in a continuous line on curves and hills, and at intervals of 50 feet on straight, level stretches of highways.

* * *

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placed in a continuous line to be seen and felt, and the installation of 50,000 miles
of neon-lighted traffic lines will be completed by 1935.

JOINT REFERENCE

LIBRARY

Housing Officials Turn Attention Toward "Defense Housing"

Appointment of a committee on defense housing to advise local public housing agencies and the federal government on emergency housing was announced today by the National Association of Housing Officials.

The committee was set up in the belief that the low-cost public housing program will soon have to fit part of its current plans into the building of accommodations for expanded populations in war defense industry towns and army and navy post communities, according to the Association.

In the latter connection, President Roosevelt has already approved the first of a probable series of United States Housing Authority loans giving \$1,305,000 to the Montgomery Housing Authority and \$643,000 to Pensacola, Fla., for dwelling units at army and naval air stations.

The "big, general problem," the Association noted in a bulletin to members, "is to start an energetic, flexible housing program closely geared to the manufacturing, shipping and military phases of defense, without destroying or perverting long-term housing objectives and purposes."

Although most of the direction and financing of the emergency housing will come from the federal government, local housing authorities can contribute valuable information already gathered on housing conditions, site possibilities and other factors, it was pointed out. Where local authorities have been established and are properly staffed, they should be able to provide the complete machinery for construction and management.

"Coordination locally of housing efforts with other parts of the defense program will demand more and more attention," the Association said. "A large-scale, high-gearred defense program will affect directly not only housing but schools, public health, public works and other local activities."

In 1917, when there were no local housing authorities, the federal government had to create a Bureau of Industrial Housing and Transportation, later the United States Housing Corporation, to supervise emergency housing for war industries workers and others. Appropriations totaling \$150,000,000 were made to this agency in 1918. Its program had to be undertaken on the basis of little more than quick survey information.

The National Association of Housing Officials' special committee is headed by C.F. Palmer, chairman of the Atlanta Housing Authority, and president of the Association. Other members are Edward Weinfeld, state commissioner of housing, division of housing, New York; Miles Colean, in charge of a special housing study for the Twentieth Century Fund and until recently assistant administrator of the Federal Housing Administration; Ernest J. Bohn, executive director, Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority; and Carleton F. Sharpe, community manager of Greenhills, O.

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Fireworks - Legal

Strict Fireworks Control Laws In Effect In Eight States On July 4

Statewide fireworks control laws effective on July 4 for the first time this year in Delaware and Indiana bring to a total of eight the number of states which will practically prohibit the private use of pyrotechnics on the holiday, the Council of State Governments said today.

The statewide legislation, which in many cases replaced a scattering of municipal fireworks control ordinances easy for fireworks bootleggers to evade, is looked upon generally as an improved means of reducing fireworks accidents. Injuries from such accidents totaled more than 5,500 last July 4. In 1938, they numbered 7,933; in 1937, 7,205.

The other six states with strict fireworks control laws are Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Utah and West Virginia. New York state will join the "prohibitory" group after August 1, when a measure enacted in the 1940 legislative session becomes effective.

All of these laws are based on a model proposed by the National Fire Protection Association. Provision is made in the laws for properly supervised public displays, for which a permit and bond to cover possible personal injury and property damage are required.

In addition, California and Wisconsin are considered to have fairly effective fireworks control laws. More than 30 states, also, have various kinds of "regulatory" laws, ranging from permission granted local governments to treat the problem "as they see fit," to restrictions on the type or size of fireworks, and limits on when and where they may be sold.

Six states have no statewide fireworks legislation at all. They are Arizona, Georgia, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, and North Carolina.

The prohibitory type of fireworks control law has shown itself effective during its first year in a majority of the states adopting it, the Council noted. Pennsylvania, which made the law effective last year, reduced fireworks injuries from 1,702 to 85, and deaths from six to none. Utah's fireworks injuries declined from 18 to 5 upon first application of the law last year, and West Virginia's from 41 to none. Iowa, whose law became effective in 1938, showed a decrease in injuries from 76 to 6.

The six states reporting the most fireworks injuries last year were: New York, 1,491; California, 650; Illinois, 458; Missouri, 357; Ohio, 337; and Massachusetts, 333.

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Statewide fireworks control laws. More than 30 states, alone, have passed legislation, ranging from permission granted local governments to restrict the sale of fireworks, to restrictions on the type of fireworks, and on when and where they may be sold. Six states have no statewide fireworks legislation at all. They are Arizona,

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1 Forests, Nursery

Community Forests Increase In Number

When Troy, Me., population 650, recently voted to establish a town forest of 1,000 acres from tax-delinquent land, it became the 26th community in the state and one of approximately 1,500 in the country with community-owned woodland.

Troy's action is indicative of an increasing interest in community forests as a means of providing new growth of trees for watersheds, establishing recreation areas, and making financial profit as well, the American Municipal Association said today.

Community forests, the idea of which was borrowed from Europe, have been growing rapidly in number since 1910. New York planted 20 new forests in 1938. The first town forest in the country, however, was planted in Newington, N.H., in 1910. States where they are most frequently found include: New York, 579; Massachusetts, 177; Wisconsin, 174; California, 158; Pennsylvania, 134; Michigan, 112; and New Hampshire, 102.

An estimated three million acres of land is now planted with community forests. Their ownership is sometimes in the name of the entire city or it may be assigned to the schools, the municipal hospital or churches. In Wisconsin, which has 150 school forests of 40 to 320 acres apiece, school children do the reforestation work under supervision of the school superintendent or the county agricultural agent.

While the growth of timber crops is usually the ultimate objective, the forests often have many uses, the Association said. Many of them are stocked with game for hunting. In several cases, thinnings from growing forests have been used as cordwood for needy families. Net revenue from sales of mature wood in some cases has amounted to thousands of dollars.

The forests usually require only small initial investments, the Association pointed out. Sometimes tax-delinquent lands are deeded the city by owners who can put them to no profitable use. One Massachusetts town converted an abandoned poor farm into a community forest. The state forester often supplies trees free or at low cost. Local boards or forest committees usually control the community forests, and in about forty cases professional foresters are employed.

Ninety Per Cent Of Assessors Are Elected, Survey Shows

The assessors of only 2,100 primary districts--less than 10 per cent of the 23,000 primary assessment districts in the country--are appointed to office, a survey by the National Association of Assessing Officers showed today.

There is a slight trend, however, toward replacing the popular election of assessors by appointment, according to the Association. The most abrupt change in recent years occurred in 1934, following the enactment of a New York law making mandatory the appointment of assessors in more than 40 towns.

Most of the other changes have been voluntary adoptions of the appointment plan by municipal governments. In New Jersey, for example, approximately 150 townships and boroughs have chosen to appoint rather than elect assessors under optional statutes. Appointment of city assessors is also prevalent in Michigan, where most cities operate under home-rule charters.

In 25 states, all assessors of primary districts are elected, the survey showed. The other 23 states have varying proportions of elected and appointed assessors. In Colorado and Missouri, for example, only the assessor of the largest city of the state is appointed. In Delaware, Georgia and North Carolina, all assessors are appointed.

City assessors are typically appointed rather than elected. Approximately 650 out of the 1,000 city primary assessment districts have appointed assessors. Among them are all cities in Maine, Rhode Island, and the Dakotas, and a majority of the cities in all other states with city primary assessment districts except Iowa, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin.

County assessors, on the other hand, are almost always elected. The assessors of only 275 county districts, out of a total of 2,157, acquire office by appointment. Towns, villages, boroughs and townships also usually elect their assessors.

Appointed assessors are customarily chosen by the chief executive or by the legislative body of the assessment district, according to the survey. In counties, the board of commissioners or supervisors usually makes the choice, and in cities, the city manager, mayor or council. South Carolina is the only state in which local assessors are appointed by state officers.

County assessors are elected on a non-partisan ballot only in California, but throughout the country many townships and municipal assessors are chosen without regard for political affiliation. More than 60 per cent of the cities over 5,000 population which elect assessors hold non-partisan elections.

Refuse disposal - 1313

Cities Must Use Caution In Comparing Refuse Collection Costs, Study Shows

The city that compares refuse collection costs with its neighbor should be cautious about quoting per capita figures or unit costs as final evidence, the American Public Works Association said today.

So many variables exist in the collection problems of different cities that it is practically impossible to make accurate comparisons even by giving the cost in terms of units--so much per ton per person, the Association said.

A nationwide study of refuse collection costs now under way by the Association shows, for example, a range in per capita costs from $9\frac{1}{2}¢$ to \$2.96 for 136 cities. When unit costs for 42 of the cities which collect only garbage were analyzed, the minimum cost per ton was found to be \$1.00, and the maximum, \$8.92.

The wide differences shown in both methods of comparison were "too great to be explained in terms of relative efficiency or character of service," the study noted. What lay behind the differences, it was pointed out, were factors such as climate and geography, frequency of refuse collection, the place from which collections were made--curb, alley, backdoor or basement--the length of the haul to place of disposal, wage rates of collectors and drivers, population density, plans and methods of operation, and even accounting practices.

To be anywhere nearly accurate, a comparative study must at the outset group cities according to such factors as those cited above, the study said. Although it is probably impossible, even then, to adjust actual cost figures for all the differences in the services of the two or more cities being compared, it is a "sensible compromise" to adjust the cost figures for the important differences, and by way of qualification, to call attention to the other differences that have not been taken into account.

1 Published

Dearborn Plans To Buy Tax-Abandoned Land For Play Space

Taking advantage of the state-wide "scavenger" sale of tax-delinquent lands, Dearborn, Mich., plans to secure several hundred acres of new play space for its youth and adult population, the American Society of Planning Officials reported today.

The city council has requested the Michigan State Land Board to withhold several hundred parcels of land from the tax sale, with the intention of taking them over for municipal use. The parcels selected are in groups suitably located for recreation purposes, and if the city gets all or most of them, it will have a greatly improved system of parks and playgrounds, local planning officials say.

Included in the parcels are 20 two- to four-acre playgrounds; 25 five- to ten-acre playfields; and 3 forty-acre parks. Other smaller groups of lots were selected to provide each 160 acres with at least a two-acre playfield.

At present, Dearborn officials point out, the city has only 30 acres of parks to serve a population of approximately 65,000, and playground sites must be leased. Although the lots the city plans to secure will take more than a million dollars' valuation off the tax rolls, they have contributed nothing to the support of the city for ten years, and their removal is expected to bring actual savings, since streets and alleys can be closed and subsequent economies made in maintenance.

* * *

Personnel, Public - Apprent

San Diego Opens City Hall To Student Workers

San Diego, Calif., will again offer practical training for government careers to college graduates selected for city hall apprenticeships this year, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

Two student administrative assistants will be appointed next month to the one-year training positions which have been set up by the city civil service commission. The appointments are open only to candidates between the ages of 21 and 28 years who have received special college training in government. Apprentice duties range from assisting in preparation of the budget to making special studies for the city manager and department heads. The salary is \$75 a month.

San Diego, which for several years has employed one apprentice a year, is one of approximately 20 cities now offering such training opportunities. Most of the apprentices are under the supervision of civil service commissions or city managers.

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**JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY**

1940 "Census" Shows Sharp Increase In Merit Systems

Close to a 30 per cent increase in the number of municipal merit systems occurred within the past three years in the United States, while state and federal employees were brought under civil service by the thousands, a nation-wide census on the merit system by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada showed today.

A total of 869 cities now have at least a portion of their employees under some type of civil service, whereas three years ago the number stood at 674. Since 1937, when the Assembly made its first census, eight states have adopted merit system laws for the great majority of their employees, bringing the total number with civil service to 17. Two additional states since 1937 adopted laws applying to a limited number of their employees, and all states, by recent amendment to the Social Security Act, are applying merit system coverage to public assistance and unemployment compensation employees.

In the federal government, approximately 128,000 employees have been placed under the classified civil service since 1937, mainly by executive order. The percentage of federal employees under the merit system, which had declined from 80 to about 60 per cent in the last decade, is now back up to more than 70 per cent.

Most of the merit systems adopted during the past three years at the municipal level have been in cities of less than 100,000 population, the Assembly said. Eighty per cent of the larger cities already had civil service in 1937, according to the census of that year. Extension of civil service into county jurisdictions has been slight. Only 173 of the 3,053 counties now operate under some form of civil service, four of the adoptions occurring within the past four years.

Among factors credited with making the merit system a live issue during the current period are the business depression, which helped focus citizen attention on government, and the establishment of many new governmental services with consequent interest in methods of recruiting public employees. Nation-wide campaigns by various civic organizations and professional and public employee groups provided considerable stimulus, along with the report of the President's Committee on Administrative Management, which called for an extension of the merit system "upward, outward and downward to cover all non-policy determining posts."

The complete list of jurisdictions with partial or entire civil service coverage of employees in the Assembly census totals 1,099. This includes the federal government, the 48 states, 869 cities, 173 counties and 8 special districts. In addition, four Hawaiian counties, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Philippines and certain departments of the District of Columbia are operating under merit systems.

Recommend Widened Scope For Municipal Long-Term Planning

Cities should plan their finances years in advance to pay for such costs as relief and employe pensions as well as streets and waterworks, according to a current report of the Municipal Finance Officers Association.

The report, presented by the Association's committee on long-term financial planning, suggests a new definition of long-term planning, to include not only capital outlay for construction and other physical improvements, but any municipal expenditures which "throw a financial burden on the future."

At the same time, the report recommends that municipal charters name some official body to prepare the long-term financial planning program and review it each year.

Under the report's definition, long-term planning would take in the financing of outstanding bonds, support of public relief from borrowed funds, retirement allowances for government employes, old age assistance, and any other expenditures for social security.

"There is no sound logic in insisting on the careful preparation of a long-term program for the financing of a school building or a garbage disposal plant, either of which will be of use for the next 40 or 50 years, and ignoring the expense of, say, retirement allowances to municipal employes who will no longer render service to the municipality but whose retirement allowances will be a burden on the taxpayer for years to come," the report says.

The committee recognizes as a barrier in carrying out such a planned program for all municipal needs the fact that "public officials as well as the public itself distrust the feasibility of maintaining reserve funds," despite the knowledge that any business firm would follow that practice.

The reason for fixing in the charter legal responsibility for the planning program is that municipal expenditure programs are often started on a long-term basis but are frequently not continued because administrations change, the report says.

The charter which New York City adopted a few years ago is cited by the committee as providing a "carefully worded and comprehensive plan for preparation of a capital budget" and also for specifying long-term financial requirements for debt, retirement funds and social security needs. New York City designates the Board of Estimate and Apportionment as the official body responsible for financial planning.

Cities should plan their finances years in advance to pay for such costs as

and employee pensions as well as streets and waterworks, according to a statement

of the Municipal Finance Officers Association.

The report, presented by the Association's committee on long-term financial

plan for construction and other physical improvements, and any municipal expenditures

"throw a financial burden on the future."

At the same time, the report recommends that municipal departments name some

special body to prepare the long-term financial planning program, and that it

Under the report's definition, long-term planning would mean in the financial

of outstanding bonds, support of public relief from borrowed funds, and

allowances for government employees, old age assistance, and any other expenditure

financial security.

"There is no sound logic in insisting on the annual preparation of a long-

term program for the financing of a school building or a sanitary disposal plant, which

of which will be of use for the next 50 or 75 years, and ignoring the expense of, say,

retirement allowances to municipal employees who will no longer render service to the

city but whose retirement allowances will be a burden on the taxpayer for

years to come," the report says.

The committee recognized as a barrier in carrying out such a program

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Charter Amendment Proposals Draw Light Vote In Los Angeles

Charter amendment proposals, submitted to voters with frequency in many cities, draw relatively light balloting, if the experience of Los Angeles, as reported by the city's Bureau of Governmental Research, is typical.

The Bureau's current study of charter amendment votes in Los Angeles during the period 1924-1939 shows that only in exceptional instances, such as when the amendments proposed involved an important controversy, did the voting response on any amendment proposal even closely approach the vote on city-wide offices.

Since 1925, when the present Los Angeles charter went into effect, there have been 131 amendment proposals on the ballot designed to alter, modify or add to existing provisions. The 131 proposals have appeared on the ballot in 14 different elections, of which 9 were separately conducted, while 5 were held jointly with state elections.

The study concludes that frequent amendments have made the charter longer and harder for the public to understand. The length of the charter has been approximately doubled since its adoption 16 years ago.

Campaigns for major municipal offices have attracted considerably more interest than the amendment proposals, the study shows. In four city primaries or general municipal elections which also presented amendment proposals, the total number of votes cast on the major office at stake was 15 to 40 per cent greater than the average cast on the amendments.

Los Angeles voters have balloted on as many as 26 amendment proposals at one election. The number, however, apparently has had little effect on the size of the vote.

The study also shows that voters are likely to vote on amendments of a controversial nature and pay no attention to other amendments on the same ballot. In the 14 elections, an average of only 73.51 per cent of those casting ballots actually voted on all amendment proposals.

Of the 131 charter amendment proposals, 78 have been accepted and 53 rejected. Issues pertaining to water and power, civil service, finance, and the police and fire departments drew the largest "yes" votes.

Charter amendment proposals are most common in cities of the western states, according to U.S. Census Bureau figures. In 1939, of 110 charter changes presented throughout the country, 47 were offered in the Mountain and Pacific states, 30 in the North Central states, 28 in the Southern and 5 in the Northeastern states.

Charter amendment proposals, submitted to voters with frequency in many areas, draw relatively light balloting, if the experience of Los Angeles, as reported by the city's Bureau of Governmental Research, is typical.

The Bureau's current study of charter amendment votes in Los Angeles during the period 1924-1950 shows that only in exceptional instances, such as when the amendments proposed involved an important controversy, did the voting response on any amendment proposal even closely approach the vote on city-wide elections.

Since 1924, when the present Los Angeles charter went into effect, there have been 131 amendment proposals on the ballot. Of these, 101 were amendments to existing charters. The 131 proposals have appeared on the ballot in 14 different elections, 9 of which were separately conducted, while 5 were held jointly with state elections. The study concludes that frequent amendments have made the charter process approximately doubled since the election 16 years ago.

Comparisons for major municipal offices have attracted considerably more than the amendment proposals, the study shows. In four city elections on recent municipal elections which also presented amendment proposals, the total number of votes cast on the mayor's office averaged 12 to 40 per cent greater than the average cast on the amendments.

Los Angeles voters have balloted on as many as 26 amendment proposals in the past. The number, however, apparently has had little effect on the size of the turnout. The study also shows that voters are likely to vote on amendments of a controversial nature and pay no attention to other amendments on the same ballot. In the elections, an average of only 7.51 per cent of those casting ballots voted on all amendment proposals.

Of the 131 charter amendment proposals, 78 have been amended and 23 not. Issues pertaining to water and power, civil service, finance, and the like dominate the amendments. The amendments show the largest "yes" voter.

Charter amendment proposals are most common in cities of the western states,

Slight Down-Trend Shown In State Industrial Exemption Provisions

A slight trend toward a reduction in provisions for tax concessions offered to attract industries is indicated in current reports from several states, the National Association of Assessing Officers said today.

Mississippi's BAWI program--"balance agriculture with industry"--passed out of existence June 1. Louisiana, by voters' mandate, is close to the conclusion of a five-year period during which exemptions from state and local property taxes are being offered as an inducement for locating factories in the state. Rhode Island this year tightened its factory building exemption law by requiring owners of idle factories, which are tax exempt for one year with permission of the local government, to agree upon a price acceptable for the sale of the property.

No new state was added to the list of more than 20 which had previously enacted industrial tax exemption laws.

The Mississippi industrial exemption program, which went into effect about three years ago, was repealed by the 1940 legislature. Under the BAWI act, a city or county, on approval of two-thirds of the voters, could go into debt in order to acquire factories, which in turn might be sold, leased or given to private persons with a release from all state and local property taxes for five years. Although the program is credited with bringing ten new industries into the state, opponents of BAWI argued that it tended to attract substandard plants and that public funds should not be used to subsidize private industry.

Other 1940 legislation relating to industrial tax concessions was passed in South Carolina, where bills were enacted to exempt from county taxes new factories located in three particular counties. In two of the cases the factories must guarantee employment of a minimum of 15 workers for at least six months.

Mississippi, which retains on its statute books a law exempting from local property taxes for five years new factories and enterprises engaged in certain specified manufacturing and public service activities, made several additions to the list this year, including airplane factories.

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The Mississippi industrial exemption program, which went into effect about three years ago, was repealed by the 1940 legislature. Under the RAMI act, a city or county, on approval of two-thirds of the voters, could go into debt in order to acquire factories, which in turn might be sold, leased or given to private persons with a release from all state and local property taxes for five years. Although the program is credited with bringing ten new industries into the state, opponents of RAMI argued it tended to attract substandard plants and that public funds should not be used to subsidize private industry.

Other 1940 legislation relating to industrial tax concessions was passed in North Carolina, where bills were enacted to exempt from county taxes new factories used in three particular counties. In two of the cases the factories must employ a minimum of 15 workers for at least six months.

Scientific Recruitment Methods Set Up For Firemen

Fireman-Selection

A modern set of rules for recruiting firemen who know or have a knack for learning the specialized techniques of present-day fire-fighting is offered in a study issued by Public Administration Service today.

Such standards are being applied in cities which no longer "visualize a fireman's job as sitting in a fire station between mad dashes to a large number of trivial alarms," the study says. Fire prevention, for example--only one of the fireman's tasks--requires more knowledge in certain branches of hydraulics than the average civil engineer has, along with information on building construction, physics and chemistry, it is pointed out.

With tests now available for the measurement of qualities needed to make a good fireman, a number of cities have found the following procedure successful, according to the study:

1. To conduct an active search for the best qualified persons available for the fire-fighting job and encourage them to compete for appointment.
2. To reject candidates who show on their application failure to meet established standards of age, schooling, height, weight, and chest expansion.
3. To test candidates who meet these minimum standards for intelligence, aptitudes, skills and physical strength. An interview to indicate ability to cooperate with others should be included.
4. To subject candidates to a thorough medical examination and a character investigation.

Part of the recruitment plan, also, is the provision for a probationary or work-test period as a final check on fitness for the fire-fighter's job. During this period, the recruit is trained and examined before permanent appointment.

The study advises fire departments in cities with personnel agencies to work closely with them in the recruitment program. The various types of tests for selecting firemen are described in the study.

"Bank Night" Winners Pay New Tax in Kentucky

"Bank Night" and other contest winners in Kentucky now pay 15 per cent of their prizes into the state treasury under a new law effective June 12, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

The proprietor of the place of amusement where the prize is given collects the tax for the state from the person receiving the award.

Under an opinion of the state law department, raffles, bingo and other games and contests conducted by churches and lodges fall within the "bank night" law. If the award is in the form of merchandise such as an automobile, washing machine or set of dishes, a tax is collected on 15 per cent of the retail value of the prize.

* * *

California's Blind May Have Blind Superintendent

California's Industrial Home for the Adult Blind may have a blind superintendent as a result of a state civil service examination given recently. For the first time in the state's history, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, both blind and seeing candidates took a single examination.

More than half of the 25 competitors in the test were blind. Readers were provided for the blind who were unable to hire their own for the four and one-half hour test, which was made up of multiple choice and true-false items.

High entrance requirements had to be met by all candidates. All competitors in the test were college graduates, had dealt with the problems of the blind for three years, and had had five years of experience in work related to the management of a large institution for the handicapped.

* * *

into the state treasury under a new law effective June 15, the education
for the state from the person receiving the award.

Under an opinion of the state law department, parties, clubs and other games
contests conducted by churches and lodges fall within the "bank night" law. It
is in the form of merchandise such as an automobile, washing machine or set
of dishes, a tax is collected on 10 per cent of the retail value of the prize.

Blind men and women

California's Industrial Home for the Blind may have a blind
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California City Operates Summer Camps In National Forests

Five summer vacation camps--four of them on mountain sites in national forests--provide an outstanding feature of the recreation program of Oakland, Calif., the International City Managers' Association reported today.

This year marks the twentieth summer of operation for Camp Tuolumne, 125 miles from the city, the oldest municipal camp operated by Oakland. Camp Tuolumne and another camp in the Feather River region are designed to permit family groups the enjoyment of mountain vacations on a cost basis. Adjoining the family camps are two camps for boys and girls, while a camp for working girls has been established 12 miles from the city on municipal golf course property. The latter camp is designed for girls who lack money or time for mountain vacations.

The family camps are equipped with central washrooms, rustic main buildings and floored tents. Many kinds of recreation--outdoor games, horseback riding, swimming, fishing and handicraft--are available in all the camps.

Weekly fees at the family camps range from \$5.25 for children under five to \$12.25 for persons over 18. Single meals and a night's lodging are also available, daily fees ranging from 75 cents to \$2.40. Fees at the children's mountain camp are about \$10 per week. Besides covering food and equipment, these charges cover the salaries for the summer season staff and year-around caretaker, and pay for maintenance and annual replacement.

The United States Forest Service gives special-use permits to non-profit enterprises of local government like these camps, according to the Association. Elsewhere in the California region there are camps operated by Berkeley, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Stockton. San Francisco maintains a large camp on city-owned property within a national forest.

Municipal camps are found in national forests in other parts of the country. The city of Phoenix, Ariz., for example, recently completed a vacation camp on 4,000 acres of land leased from the Forest Service, spending \$120,000 for improvements such as water supply, a sewer system and recreational facilities. The camp lies in the mountains, 91 miles from the city.

Another new development is the overnight camp for boys and girls which a number of cities operate in their outlying parks.

RECREATION AND TOURISM

The following information is for the use of the public.

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This year marks the twentieth season of operation for Camp Tulelake, 1937.

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Municipal Bankruptcy Act Extension Applies To About 1,500 Local Governments

Approximately 1,500 cities, counties and other local governments will be authorized to take advantage of the extended "municipal bankruptcy" act which President Roosevelt signed on June 28, information from the Municipal Finance Officers Association showed today.

The current amendments to the municipal bankruptcy act make it possible for local governments, with the consent of creditors, to adjust their debts until June 30, 1942. The most significant change, according to the Association, is the inclusion of special assessment districts and county governments, hitherto omitted. The amended Act also specifies that the fiscal agent, attorney or other person promoting the composition of debts under the Act shall not receive double compensation for his services--that is, from both the governmental unit and the bondholders.

The number of localities struggling with debt default is fewer by several hundred than it was when the Federal Municipal Bankruptcy Act was first approved in 1934, and almost 200 fewer than even a year back, exclusive of special assessment districts. This was shown in a survey made several months ago by "The Bond Buyer," municipal bond trade journal.

As of February 1, 1940, a total of 734 cities and counties were in default, while at that date in 1939 the number stood at 824. Six hundred school districts and 137 other districts--water, sanitation, etc.--were also listed as being in arrears with their bonded debt payments, although the actual number is probably much larger, the Association said.

As late as 1938, it was estimated that 3,100 local governments--about two per cent of all the units in the United States--were in default. Only a few, however, have reduced the principal of their debts, the Association said.

Not all defaulting governmental units settle their difficulties by applying the bankruptcy act, the Association pointed out. A number of them have taken advantage of the recent favorable interest rates on bonds and have provided for refundings and readjustments. The majority of defaults are adjusted by direct dealings between the interested parties. Other factors, such as "cash basis" legislation in New Jersey and improved economic conditions in Florida cities, have aided recovery in the worst default areas.

Two Illinois Cities Find Rented Police Cars An Economy

Rented police cars are paying dividends of efficiency and economy to Evanston and Wilmette, Ill., information from the American Municipal Association showed today. These two cities are among a comparatively small number which have adopted the plan of renting automobile equipment instead of purchasing it for the police department.

Evanston has leased all police automobile equipment from a local garage for the past four years. Charges are on a mileage basis. Under terms of the contract now in force, the city rents 10 two-door trunk sedans, one de luxe four-door, a business coupe, a combination patrol and ambulance, and a $1\frac{1}{2}$ -ton combination truck and dog wagon. All cars are current models.

The garage is responsible for all costs of operation including storage, maintenance repairs, insurance, licensing, tires and fuel. The city's obligations are to employ safe drivers, to change tires in emergencies, to keep tires properly inflated, and to report service difficulties.

This year the city guarantees to pay for 265,000 miles of operation at a rate of 4 cents per mile--about \$10,600. If the police fleet travels less than 265,000 miles, the charge is still \$10,600; but all mileage over that amount will cost $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents per mile. The city has an option to use four extra cars at the price of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents, but any needed over that number will cost 4 cents per mile.

The neighboring community of Wilmette, population 15,233, operates three police automobiles. The village pays a flat rate of \$7.00 a week per car plus a mileage rate, which last year was 2.5 cents per mile for a low-priced car and this year is 3 cents for a larger car. As in Evanston, the renting garage furnishes all gasoline, lubrication and maintenance.

Several other cities whose car rental practices were surveyed by the American Municipal Association reported costs ranging from 2.4 cents to 5.25 cents per mile for passenger cars. Among these cities were Cincinnati, Dallas, Flint, Fresno, Louisville and Saginaw.

The Association noted that while large cities apparently can own their equipment and operate a municipal garage more economically than they can rent cars, smaller cities will frequently find renting cars more satisfactory.

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This year the city guarantees to pay for 240,000 miles of operation at a rate

of 4 cents per mile--about \$10,000. If the police fleet travels less than 240,000

miles, the charge is still \$10,000; but all mileage over that amount will cost 4 cents

per mile. The city has an option to use four extra cars at the price of 3 1/2 cents, but

any needed over that number will cost 4 cents per mile.

The neighboring community of Wilmette, population 12,000, operates three

cars automobiles. The village pays a flat rate of \$7.00 a week per car plus a

mileage rate, which last year was 2 1/2 cents per mile for a low-priced car and this year

is 3 cents for a larger car. As in Evanston, the remaining mileage furnishes all

repairs, lubrication and maintenance.

Several other cities whose car rental practices were surveyed by the

Proposal To Revise Canadian Tax System Of Interest To U.S. Taxpayers

The recent report of the Canadian Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations, dealing with the country's fiscal structure, proposes to remodel a tax system that parallels the American system in several ways, the Federation of Tax Administrators pointed out today.

The percentages of total taxes collected by the three levels of government in Canada, for example, stand in the same relation to one another as they do in the United States, the Federation said.

The Canadian national government in 1937--the year on which report figures are based--took in the largest amount of taxes, 47.4 per cent of the total, compared with the United States federal collections of 42.3 per cent in the same year. The Canadian provinces collected 21.0 per cent, while the states in the United States took in 23.1 per cent. Local government revenues in Canada amounted to 31.6 per cent, while in the United States they totaled 34.6 per cent of all taxes.

As in the United States, property taxes in Canada provide the largest single source of tax revenue. The provinces, however, rely on them to a lesser degree than do the states in the United States.

Although the Canadian study is entirely on finance, the changes recommended would result in an actual redistribution of powers and duties between the provinces and the Dominion, and would have far-reaching social and economic effects, according to the Federation.

Under the recommendations, the Dominion would take over the debts of the provinces, and would be made responsible also for the relief of unemployed employables. To enable the national government to meet the increased cost resulting from these transfers, the provinces would give it a monopoly on the personal income, corporation and inheritance tax fields, and would also give up all existing subsidies received from the Dominion.

The Dominion not only would assume responsibility for the provincial debts and for unemployment relief, but would make two new types of grants to the provinces. "National adjustment grants" would be for the purpose of equalizing the levels of governmental services such as education, health and welfare, which the several provinces now provide in varying amounts. "Emergency grants" would provide temporary funds when they are needed because of abnormally poor economic conditions brought on by drought or other such factors.

The recent report of the Canadian Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial

relations, dealing with the country's fiscal structure, proposes to remodel a tax

system that parallels the American system in several ways, the Federation of Tax

Administrators pointed out today.

The percentages of total taxes collected by the three levels of government in

Canada, for example, stand in the same relation to one another as they do in the

United States, the Federation said.

The Canadian national government in 1957--the year on which report figures

are based--took in the largest amount of taxes, 44.4 per cent of the total, compared

with the United States federal collections of 46.3 per cent in the same year. The

provinces collected 31.0 per cent, while the states in the United States

took in 23.1 per cent. Local government revenues in Canada amounted to 24.6 per

cent, while in the United States they totaled 28.3 per cent of all taxes.

As in the United States, property taxes in Canada provide the largest portion

of tax revenue. The provinces, however, rely on them to a lesser degree than

do the states in the United States.

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but "adjustment grants" would be for the purpose of equalizing the levels of

mental services such as education, health and welfare, which the several

Personnel

New Sick-Leave Policy Successful In Sacramento, Calif.

A new sick-leave policy for city employes of Sacramento, Calif., has justified itself after six months' trial in terms of improved employe morale and money savings, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today. The plan has now been made permanent.

Like most cities, Sacramento provides for a maximum number of days of sick leave that may be used in any one year, allowing the accumulation of all unused days to build up a reserve. All employes are given a basic allowance of 15 days a year after the first year of service.

The new sick-leave ordinance, devised by the city manager, calls for investigation of all cases of sickness by a city physician, and a medical report from their own physicians by employes absent for more than a week. Under the plan, when an employe reports "off sick" to his foreman or supervisor, the department notifies the city manager's office before 10 o'clock the same day. The manager's office calls the city physician, who makes a house call on each of the reported employes sometime during the day. He reports by telephone to the city manager's office in the afternoon.

If the "sick" employe is not found at home, he must show proof of his whereabouts and submit evidence of illness. A proved malingerer loses his pay for the time absent.

Inauguration of the new sick-leave plan was the result of a three-year study which showed that from 1935 to 1938 there had been a gradual increase in the annual cost of sick leave from \$23.68 to \$32.80 per employe.

The study also found evidence of malingering among some employes who were frequently absent and "noticeably increased resentment on the part of conscientious employes who felt that the malingerers were apparently able to take advantage of existing sick-leave provisions and get away with it," the report said.

During the first six months the plan was in effect, sick-leave costs for the 1,050 employes of Sacramento went down \$7,464--a reduction of 36 per cent. The saving occurred mainly by reduction of unnecessary sick leaves.

Employes in general are said to approve the sick leave plan, and now consider sick leave a protection in case of need rather than a benefit to be conveniently used whenever wanted, according to the report. The city physician's call has proved helpful in some cases in recognizing a serious condition of illness, which the employe's own doctor is immediately called to attend,

The investigations cost the city little in comparison to savings, the report said. The investigating physician is retained by the city on a half-time basis at a salary of \$70 a month. He makes an average of two calls a day.

A new sick-leave policy for city employees of Government, Calif., has been adopted after six months' trial in terms of improved employee morale and money savings, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today. The plan has now been made permanent. Like most cities, Government provides for a maximum number of days of sick leave that may be used in any one year, allowing the accumulation of all unused days to build up a reserve. All employees are given a basic allowance of 15 days a year for the first year of service.

The new sick-leave ordinance, devised by the city manager, calls for investigation of all cases of absence by a city physician, and a medical report from the physician is required. The physician is required to make a house call on each of the reported employee's home on the day. He reports his findings to the city manager's office in his report. If the "sick" employee is not found at home, he must show proof of his absence and submit evidence of illness. A proved malingerer loses his pay for

Investigation of the new sick-leave plan was the result of a three-year study which showed that from 1925 to 1928 there had been a gradual increase in the amount of sick leave from \$4,500 to \$48,800 per employee. The study also found evidence of malingerers among some employees who were frequently absent and "sick" leave was increased without any increase in the part of compensation. Employees who felt that the malingerers were unfairly obtaining advantages of the sick-leave provisions and got away with it, the report said. During the three six months the plan was in effect, sick-leave costs for the 1,050 employees of Government went down 44 percent, a reduction of 50 per cent. The saving was mainly by reduction of unnecessary sick leaves.

Employees in general are said to approve the sick leave plan, and now consider leave a protection in case of need rather than a benefit to be conscientiously used, according to the report. The city physician's call has proved helpful in cases in recognizing a serious condition of illness, which the employee's own doctor is immediately called to attend.

It is estimated by the city on a basis of two calls a day, makes an average of two calls a day.

Indianapolis Finger-Prints Patrons Of Second-Hand Shops

Indianapolis has extended its recently adopted finger-print ordinance to the patrons of second-hand dealers as well as of pawnbrokers, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

The ordinance requires second-hand dealers to record on special cards the right thumb-print of persons selling them articles. The cards, which also contain the signature, description and address of the patron, are delivered to the city police department by the dealer.

Dealers are required to keep ten kinds of transaction cards in addition. These cover watches, jewelry and diamonds, clothing, office equipment, firearms, bicycles, plumbing fixtures, electrical fixtures, musical instruments and miscellaneous items. All merchandise and equipment must be held 96 hours before it is sold or otherwise disposed of.

The Indianapolis pawnbroker thumb-print ordinance, upheld by the state supreme court, was responsible for the arrest of many criminals and the recovery of much stolen property within a few months after it became effective, and its success led to extension to the second-hand shops.

* * *

Dallas Has Unique School Fire Prevention Program

A new kind of school fire prevention education program, enlisting the cooperation of a local civic club, the fire department and the Dallas Fire Prevention Council, has been inaugurated in Dallas, Tex., as part of a two-year campaign to cut fire losses, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The Dallas Civitan Club and the other organizations have issued an illustrated manual on fire prevention which is distributed to school children as well as to the general public for study. The manual includes lessons on fire hazards and information on the history of fire protection and fire prevention.

School children enroll in a Junior Fire Prevention Council, receiving an inspector's badge and membership card. Promotions to the rank of lieutenant or captain are earned by correcting fire hazards anywhere in the city, and turning in a record form signed by the occupant of the building where the hazard was found. At the end of the year the pupil who has done the most to further fire prevention will receive a gold badge and the title of fire prevention chief for all the schools. The pupil in each of the 68 city schools who has corrected the most hazards will be named battalion chief of his school for the next year.

* * *

Indianapolis has extended the recently adopted finger-print ordinance to

action of Childs of Police Department today.

The ordinance requires second-hand dealers to record on special cards the
finger-print of persons selling guns and pistols. The cards, which also contain
signature, description and address of the person, are delivered to the city

the department by the dealer.

Dealers are required to keep ten kinds of transaction cards in addition.

cover watches, jewelry and diamonds, clothing, office equipment, firearms,

license renewals. All transactions and equipment must be held 30 hours before it is

The Indianapolis law-enforcement finger-print ordinance, upheld by the state

court, was responsible for the arrest of many criminals and the recovery of
stolen property, within a few months after its passage effective, and the

* * *

as has before School Fire Prevention

A new kind of school fire prevention education program, embracing the
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all, has been inaugurated in Dallas, Tex., as part of a two-year campaign to cut

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form signed by the occupant of the building where the hazard was found. At the
of the year the group who has done the most to further fire prevention will receive

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Nation-Wide Study Of Local, State And Federal Tax Structures Urged

A recommendation that a nation-wide study of tax structures be undertaken to determine what fiscal and functional relationships should exist among federal, state and local governments has been made in a report to the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada by its Committee on Local Governmental Activities and Revenues.

Upon completion of the study, recommendations should be submitted for the improvement and coordination of the entire governmental revenue structure, according to a resolution adopted by the Association. The Association resolved also to ask President Roosevelt to appoint an investigating committee, which may include representatives of all three levels of government.

In asking that such a study be made, the committee said "the world is facing a radical readjustment and change in social and economic orders," and that "this country cannot hope to avoid the evil consequences and effects of such a change.

"It is evident that local governments, of and by themselves, cannot work out a solution of their fiscal problems," the report said. "Members of the committee are firmly convinced of the necessity and desirability of an early and comprehensive appraisal of the taxation system of this country and the development of a co-ordinated revenue system which will give recognition to the importance of local governments in our financial structure."

Comparing findings of its recent local revenue survey with one made 18 months ago, the committee said: "It appears that there has been no marked improvement in the financial structure of local government."

Replies to the latest survey "more or less uniformly indicate that there has been no abatement or lessening in local welfare burdens, that assessed valuations still continue to shrink, and that local tax rates still display upward tendencies.

(MORE)

"Today, it is more evident than ever before that government must provide for the shortcomings of our industrial and economic systems," the report said, adding that "since the outbreak of the depression municipalities have embarked on social services which now form a considerable portion of every municipal budget."

It is becoming more and more difficult to establish any direct connection between these social services, which in the main are a direct benefit to persons or individuals, and benefits to real property, according to the report.

"Since further developments in these services may be anticipated, it would seem desirable and necessary to evolve a revenue system that will distribute over all the citizens some portion of the cost of social services that are of a benefit to individuals irrespective of their ownership of property," the report said. "As to the owner or tenant of real property, it can be argued fairly that he not only is making his own contribution but is sharing the burden of others."

Recent recommendations of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations in Canada were cited by the committee report as indicative of the type of tax structure revision under consideration by the committee. The Canadian commission was appointed to investigate the various difficulties that had arisen in the relations, economic or otherwise, between the federal and provincial governments, and to make recommendations with a view toward readjustments which would eliminate these difficulties and make for the smoother working of inter-governmental relationships in the future.

A few highlights of the Canadian commission's report were: 1) the Dominion government would assume entire responsibility for unemployment relief for employables; 2) provinces would withdraw from income, inheritance and corporation tax fields; 3) the Dominion would respect the remaining revenue sources of the provinces; 4) national adjustment grants would be paid annually to provinces according to need in order to maintain national average services without excessive taxation; and (5) the income tax base should be broadened and the burden on lower and middle brackets increased, and there should be a progressive elimination of the sales tax.

The Committee report said such a survey and study could well be made in the United States because, "if the dire happenings which appear imminent at this moment should actually come to pass, our existing economic structure would need considerable revamping and change."

If the proposed study were made, the report said, there would be available through the committee's research and studies facts and information on which a comprehensive and coordinated revenue system embracing business and industry as well as government, and in line with world developments, might be established.

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A few highlights of the Canadian commission's report were: (1) the provinces would assume positive responsibility for elementary and secondary education; (2) provinces would withdraw from income, inheritance and corporation tax levies; (3) the Dominion would respect the remaining revenue sources of the provinces; (4) adjustment grants would be paid annually to provinces according to need in order to maintain national unity; and (5) the provinces would be given the right to maintain national unity without excessive taxation; and (6) the

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If the proposed study were made, the report said, there would be no doubt that the committee's research and studies facts and information on which a revenue and coordinated revenue system embracing business and industry as well as agriculture and other world developments, might be established.

Wisconsin's New State Traffic Patrol Is 48th State Police Agency

Creation of a Wisconsin state traffic patrol completes the establishment of a law enforcement agency--either police or highway patrol--by every state in the Union, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The new patrol has a uniformed personnel of 45 officers, and is responsible for the enforcement of all state laws governing the licensing and operation of motor vehicles on the state's highways. It is one of three divisions--the other two are motor registration and safety promotion--of the new state department of motor vehicles, set up under a 1939 state law.

By its action, Wisconsin became the 48th and final state to create a state highway police agency--just 105 years after the famed Texas Rangers, "granddaddy" of modern state law enforcement agencies, was established in 1935 to combat cattle rustlers and the smuggling of aliens across the Mexican border. It was pointed out, however, that the state police movement took its modern form in 1905 in Pennsylvania, although Massachusetts set up a "state police force" in 1865, and the Arizona Rangers was formed in 1901.

Wisconsin's new motor vehicle department consolidates, for the first time in the state's history, all functions relating to licensing, regulation, inspection and safety of motor vehicles. Through the reorganization, the Association said, the state has created a modern set-up for traffic law enforcement and highway safety promotion.

Despite the fact the traffic patrol is comparatively small Commissioner George W. Rickeman of the new motor vehicle department believes it will increase the safety of Wisconsin highways. Officers of the patrol attended a three-day school in May before the patrol began operating officially, and patrolmen now are conducting a drive to enforce the proper licensing and loading of trucks. Their other duties include testing 2,000 school buses and drivers, investigating accidents, and conducting drivers' license examinations. Patrolmen cooperate fully with the safety promotion division.

* * *

WISCONSIN'S NEW MOTOR VEHICLE DEPARTMENT CONSOLIDATES

Consolidation of a Wisconsin state motor vehicle department, the first time in the history of the state, will be accomplished by July 1, 1901.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police said today,

The new law will be a landmark in the history of the state, and will be a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world.

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the state's history, all functions relating to motor vehicles, including the registration of motor vehicles, the licensing of drivers, and the enforcement of motor vehicle laws.

Despite the fact the traffic patrol is comparatively small Commissioner

George A. Thompson of the new department, which will be organized July 1, 1901, said today that the new department will be a landmark in the history of the state, and it is a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world. It is a landmark in the history of the world, and it is a landmark in the history of the world.

Tax-Forfeited Property In Iowa Put To Quick Use

Through an amended tax-title law enabling counties to purchase and dispose of tax delinquent property, Polk county, Iowa--city of Des Moines--has within the last few years acquired land for a number of municipal purposes, sold several hundred parcels at a profit, and encouraged local home building, a report to the American Society of Planning Officials showed today.

Polk county has a real estate department, set up after enactment in 1935 of the "scavenger tax-sale law," which allows counties to acquire title to tax-delinquent land for the use and benefit of other taxing bodies. The department determines whether property acquired by tax sale can be put to public use or whether it should be offered for sale.

Among properties so converted during the past five years were a greenhouse, which was turned over to Des Moines for use as a municipal greenhouse; a large tract in the center of Des Moines with a natural lake, now made into a municipal park; land for a hospital site; and a considerable amount of property along street developments.

In 1939, the real estate department sold 694 parcels of land at an aggregate sale price of \$66,881, which was \$6,465 in excess of the amount of tax delinquency, interest, costs and penalties. During the same year 186 permits were issued for construction on vacant lots sold by the county, with a combined building value of \$553,000.

Many of the cheaper lots falling to the county were sold to people of limited income for \$50 apiece, enabling such purchasers to build a home and become property owners when otherwise it would have been beyond their means.

The scavenger tax-sale law was designed, primarily, to reclaim tax-delinquent lands for the tax rolls. Although certain concessions are granted former owners of tax-reverted land, the bids of "outsiders" must at least equal the amount due in general taxes, interest, costs and penalties before they will be recognized as legitimate bids.

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owners when otherwise it would have been beyond their means.

Reverted land, the bids of "outsiders" must at least equal the amount due in
taxes and expenses, and the county must be satisfied that the land will be used for

Many Cities Specify, Test Commodities Under Centralized Purchasing Plan

Most American cities buying supplies through centralized purchasing departments make strict use of written specifications to protect themselves on purchases, a survey by the American Municipal Association showed today. Most of the cities maintain a testing laboratory, or use federal government or privately owned laboratories, to see that goods received match specifications.

Cities in the larger population groups make a much greater use of written specifications than the smaller communities, according to the survey, which covered 100 of the 125 municipalities reporting the use of centralized purchasing. The total number of large and small cities buying to specification is about 34 per cent of those surveyed.

Most of the cities surveyed reported that their centralized purchasing department was responsible for formulating the standards and specifications used in buying supplies. Sixteen per cent reported the exclusive use of standards and specifications based either on federal specifications or on those of national trade or technical associations. Four per cent said a special committee prepared the specifications.

Many of the cities indicated that written specifications have been made up to cover nearly every type of commodity they need, from alloys and flower bulbs to uniforms and soap.

If the practice of the 100 cities indicates the trend throughout the country, the survey said, "it would seem that American municipalities are now making extensive use of tests to determine whether samples of commodities submitted with bids, and the purchases actually delivered, comply with representations made by the vendors."

Of 47 cities from which complete information was received, only seven, or 15 per cent, said they never test commodities after delivery to learn if they conform to specifications. In making such tests the cities use college, state or commercial testing laboratories. Nearly all the cities of over 100,000 population, however, maintain some kind of testing laboratory of their own.

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Cities Profit On Waste Product

Ten cities which dispose of their sewage sludge by selling it for fertilizer receive from 25 cents to \$3.50 a cubic yard, depending upon how much it has been processed, and upon the demand.

This information, from the American Public Works Association, was obtained from a survey conducted by "Municipal Sanitation" magazine.

In most cases, the cities obtaining the highest prices for the by-product spent considerable effort in processing it. Atlanta, Ga., for example, receives 50 cents a cubic yard for air-dried sludge, and \$1.50 a cubic yard when it is air-dried and ground. Oshkosh, Wis., sells air-dried and ground sludge for \$3.50 a cubic yard, while unground sludge is half-price.

Phoenix, Ariz., sells sludge for \$1.00 a ton to a contracting firm which, in turn, disposes of it to farmers.

Several of the 10 cities sell only a small amount of sludge to private users, according to the information. Palo Alto, Calif., sells only to the city park department and to a nearby university for its golf course.

A few other cities--including Griffin, Ga., Dothan, Ala., Lakeland, Fla., Racine, Wis., Redlands, Calif., and Tucson, Ariz.--reported that all of the sludge produced at their municipal sewage treatment plants is being used by the cities for fertilizer on park areas and golf courses.

The other cities in the group covered by the survey were Akron and Dayton, O., El Paso, Tex., Muskegon, Mich., Stratford, Conn., Tulsa, Okla., and Fresno, Calif.

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Trail

Virginia Adopts New System Of Highway Pavement Markings

Designed to eliminate head-on and side-swiping collisions, a new plan for highway markings in Virginia provides for a varying arrangement of solid and broken lines to designate places where vehicles may and may not cut over from the right hand traffic lane, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The system uses single broken lines on two- and three-lane highways, except on hills, curves and intersections. A double solid line is used in the center of a four-lane highway, and the lanes on each side of the double solid line are divided by single broken lines.

The Virginia highway department said that due to the guide lines and the specified cross-over areas designated by the broken lines, the urge by motorists to cross indiscriminately had been curbed and many collisions averted.

* * *

Skid-Resistance Of Concrete Pavements Increased By Acid Treatment

Skid-resistant qualities of concrete pavements may be increased by hydrochloric acid treatment which etches and roughens the pavement surface, according to experiments made before the present war by the Road Research Board of London, England, the American Public Works Association said today.

In the tests, pavement areas varying in size from five to 50 square yards were used, and one gallon of concentrated hydrochloric acid was applied to each area. The resultant etching of the pavement appreciably increased the coefficient of friction of the smaller test areas. The board's report said also that the rougher pavement texture was more durable under traffic.

* * *

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High-resistant qualities of concrete pavements may be increased by
treatment which cures and roughens the pavement surface, according
to a statement made before the present war by the Road Research Board of London.
Presently, the American Public Works Association said today.

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State Unemployment Compensation Legislation Receives Greatest Attention In 1940

Of the many state welfare problems receiving attention of the 15 legislatures meeting in regular or special sessions this year, unemployment compensation had the edge in the number of bills introduced and the number enacted into law, a survey by the American Public Welfare Association showed today. On the whole, the 1940 legislation followed the same design as that enacted in 1939.

A study of 1939 state legislation revealed no clear pattern in the field of direct relief. Perhaps this was because in direct relief, in contrast with the other categories of public assistance, the entire job has been left to state and local government, according to the survey.

"Again this year," according to the survey, "we have in the states deficiency and emergency financing of relief, borrowing for relief, and changes in the cost-proportion to be borne locally and by the state." One act of interest was the law, passed over the governor's veto, shifting the New Jersey administrative organization of relief. A State Municipal Aid Administration headed by one man appointed by the legislature replaced the State Financial Assistance Commission.

Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio and Virginia now can give larger old age assistance grants as a result of 1940 legislation. Illinois and Ohio availed themselves of 1939 congressional amendments permitting federal assumption of half the cost of individual monthly grants up to \$40; Kentucky and Mississippi increased their maximum monthly grants from \$15 to \$30; and Virginia eliminated a requirement that all income of the recipient be included in the \$20-a-month maximum. In addition, Ohio raised her maximum grant for aid to the needy blind from \$400 to \$480 annually.

Legislative trends in 1940 in residence requirements for public assistance were opposite those of 1939 when, according to the survey, laws for the most part raised the time required to gain legal settlement in a state. This year, Mississippi lowered her requirements for old age assistance from five years within the nine

(MORE)

Of the many state welfare problems receiving attention of the 15 legislatures meeting in regular or special sessions this year, unemployment compensation has the most significant. The American Public Welfare Association showed today, on the whole, the 1960 legislative session followed the same design as that enacted in 1959.

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Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Ohio and Virginia now can give income and age assistance grants as a result of 1959 legislation. Illinois and Ohio avoided the 1959 congressional amendments restricting federal assumption of half the cost of state assistance.

Monthly grants from \$15 to \$50; and Virginia eliminated a requirement that one of the recipient be included in the \$10-a-month maximum. In addition, Ohio raised her maximum grant for aid to the needy blind from \$400 to \$450 annually.

Legislative trends in 1960 in residence requirements for public assistance contrast those of 1959 when, according to the survey, laws for the most part lifted the time required to gain legal settlement in a state. This year, Massachusetts requirements for old age assistance from five years within the nine

preceding application to one year immediately preceding application. Rhode Island reduced her residence requirements to one year for old age assistance, aid to the blind, and state unemployment compensation.

Much of the legislative activity around unemployment compensation legislation related to adjustment of state provisions to 1939 Social Security Act amendments. Illinois and Pennsylvania enacted laws excluding compensation in excess of \$3,000 a year; South Carolina exempted newspaper carriers under 18; and New York exempted golf caddies under 18. Rhode Island, in line with the 1939 trend, reduced her waiting period, while Alabama's legislature requested appointment of a committee to investigate her law and suggest revisions and modifications.

A bright spot in state welfare legislation this year, the survey said, was the growth of interstate cooperation--reflected by provisions of New Jersey, Rhode Island and Virginia laws as to interstate agreements relative to indigents and dependents. A similar proposal was passed by Louisiana's legislature, but it has yet to be approved by the governor.

Only two states this year made important changes in their administrative organization for welfare. Rhode Island transferred the administration of its bureau for the blind from the Department of Education to the Department of Social Welfare, and created within this department an advisory council to assist in promoting interests of the blind. Mississippi changed her county welfare boards to welfare departments, and made a clear separation of administrative and advisory powers as to the executive officers and the boards.

In the field of child welfare, New Jersey continued for a year her State Juvenile Delinquency Commission, but failed to provide an operating appropriation; New York revived her temporary commission to examine and recommend measures to improve facilities for deaf children; and Virginia provided for an investigation of child welfare by her Advisory Legislative Council.

The survey showed few developments in the field of medical care for the indigent or for low-income groups. "Although New Jersey and Virginia continued one of last year's trends by authorizing non-profit and hospital service plans, state health action as in 1939 seems to be waiting for the much-talked-about federal proposals."

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Parking Plans Operated By Detroit, Philadelphia Solve Congestion Problems

Automobile parking programs designed to eliminate traffic hazards and congestion in Detroit and Philadelphia business districts through operation of parking lots by municipal transit utilities were reported successful today.

The programs, according to the American Society of Planning Officials, are based on a plan under which suburban motorists park on municipally-owned lots near the business districts and, in return for the parking fee, are given round-trip tickets to their offices on the city transit lines.

The Detroit department of street railways reports that its plan, started only a few months ago, is reducing congestion and, in addition, paying its own way. Detroit charges the car owner 15 cents a day to park and gives out one free round trip ticket to the downtown business center. Other passengers in the automobile receive one-way tickets to the business district.

Since the plan was inaugurated in Detroit, the car lines during May parked 14,429 automobiles and honored 79,946 streetcar tickets used by the parkers. Figures for June almost doubled the May total of cars parked and tickets used.

The Philadelphia Transportation Co., operated by the city, has parking lots near elevated and bus line terminals. Motorists are charged a parking fee of 25 cents, for which they get all-day parking and two tickets for transportation--worth 15 cents--on the elevated. The tickets may be used on streetcar and bus routes but, because the busfare is 10 cents, ticket holders using buses give their two tickets for a one-way trip and receive 5 cents in change.

It was pointed out that private interests operate one parking lot in Philadelphia on the same principle as those of the city. The parker is charged 30 cents for all-day parking and receives two subway tickets worth $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents each.

The municipally-operated parking plan in Philadelphia has been in service for about 10 years.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PHILADELPHIA TRANSPORTATION CO.

The Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Auditor General of the City of Philadelphia, dated January 1, 1911, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The report of the Auditor General shows that the accounts of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. are in full conformity with the requirements of the City of Philadelphia, and that the same are in full conformity with the requirements of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. The report also shows that the accounts of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. are in full conformity with the requirements of the City of Philadelphia, and that the same are in full conformity with the requirements of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Transportation Co.

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Dallas Inaugurates Three-Point Program To Inform Citizens

A three-point program for informing citizens about municipal affairs has been inaugurated by Dallas, Tex., in an effort to obtain a wider spread of public education than was found possible through the city's annual printed report, the International City Managers' Association said today.

The program is built around a series of special information leaflets inclosed with water bills, a series of radio programs devoted to services of individual city departments, and a motion picture of city functions.

The leaflets are small, four-page, printed circulars, each covering a single subject--mainly recent improvements of interest to the entire city, the Association said. For example, the current leaflet informs citizens about the new Dallas sewage treatment plant, and carries three pictures of plant operations. The last page of the leaflet invites citizens to listen to the municipal radio series--"This Is Dallas"--broadcast over the municipally-owned radio station, WRR, every Thursday evening.

Each radio program, dramatized under direction of the Dallas Little Theater Group, is devoted to services rendered by a city department, with City Manager James W. Aston as program narrator. He conducts three fictional characters, Mr. and Mrs. John Dallas and their son Johnnie, on imaginary visits through a city department. Character parts in the plays are taken by members of the Little Theater and by department heads and city employees of departments covered by the program.

The third medium in the public information program, a 30-minute motion picture in color, has just been completed for use by luncheon clubs and civic organizations, and by public schools this fall. The picture, produced at a cost of \$1,500, presents the story of the city's revenue dollar--its source, and the services it finances through the various city divisions and departments. The picture is accompanied by an off-scene voice explaining details that could not be shown pictorially. The movie was produced by a local producer of commercial and advertising films.

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\$1,500, presents the story of the city's revenue dollar--its source, and the

by an off-scene voice explaining details that could not be shown

Legislatures Of 11 States Use Electrical Roll-Call Machines

Electrically operated "flash-voting" machines are used by legislative bodies of 11 states for taking the roll call on bills up for passage, information from the Council of State Governments showed today. The machines are designed to simplify and speed up the polling of the membership of legislative bodies.

The information, based on a survey by the research department of the Illinois Legislative Council, showed that eight states have installed the machines in the lower house, and two--Virginia and Louisiana--in both house and senate. Nebraska, the 11th state, has only a single legislative body.

Where the roll-call machine is used, each member's desk is equipped with three push buttons--which register "aye," "no" or "present but not voting" on the indicator board near the presiding officer--and a device by which the member can lock them. Lights of different colors indicate the votes. In addition, there is a device which adds up the vote, and another which records individual votes on a permanent record.

Generally the machine is locked by a central switch until members are ready to vote. Members may all vote at the same time and if one desires to change his vote from "aye" to "no" he may push the "no" button, which substitutes the one for the other. The machine may be left open for varying lengths of time, although roll calls on minor matters may take only 10 seconds.

Wisconsin installed the first state legislative roll-call machine in the house in 1917, according to the survey. Iowa's house of representatives began using it in 1921. Dates of adoption by the other states are as follows: Texas--house, 1922; Louisiana--house, 1922, senate, 1932; Virginia--house, 1924, senate, 1930; Nebraska--1933; West Virginia--house, 1936; California and Michigan--house, 1937; Minnesota--house, 1938; and Florida--house, 1939.

"The major effect of a roll-call device," according to the Illinois council's report, "is to provide the means by which the voting of members may be simultaneous, or nearly so, rather than consecutive and in alphabetical order, and to eliminate the human element in the counting and tabulation of voting."

The survey said the arguments generally presented in behalf of electrical machine voting for legislative bodies are: 1) the time required for roll calls is greatly reduced; 2) legislative costs are reduced by the extent to which the length of sessions is reduced; 3) there results a strictly accurate roll count at all times; 4) independent voting is encouraged; and 5) since members must be in their seats in order to vote, order is more easily maintained.

Arguments generally presented in opposition to the flash-voting machine are: 1) the initial cost does not justify its adoption; 2) use of the machine results in hasty voting; 3) there is a possibility that the machine may be voted by a person other than for whom the vote is counted; 4) there is a danger of mechanical difficulties; and 5) there are legal and constitutional questions which may possibly be involved in the use of mechanical devices for roll calls.

Use Tax Cannot Be Collected At Source On Mail Order Sales Under Iowa Court Ruling

The "use" tax--levied by many states on purchases from out-of-state firms as a supplement to their sales taxes--cannot be collected at its source on mail order sales to Iowans under a recent decision of the Iowa supreme court, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

The decision held unconstitutional an Iowa law which required out-of-state mail order firms maintaining a place of business in Iowa to collect the tax from Iowa purchasers at the time of the sale. The decision was handed down in the case of *Sears, Roebuck and Co. v. Roddewig*.

The mail order house, incorporated in another state, operates through local retail outlets, and also makes sales to persons in Iowa by mail from out-of-state branches. The state sought to require collection of the use tax on the latter type of sale under penalty of revocation of the certificate of the local retail outlet to do business in the state.

The majority opinion--the court was divided sharply in the decision--regarded this action as an attempt to regulate activities taking place outside the state, since the sales were made outside the state and the statute required collection of the tax at the time the sales were made. The dissenting opinion held that the use tax was imposed on the use of goods in the state and, as a condition of granting to the company the privilege of doing business in Iowa, the state could compel the company to collect this tax from purchasers of goods.

At the same time, the Iowa high court held unanimously in the case of *Montgomery Ward and Co. v. Roddewig* that the state could not compel similar retail outlets located in towns just over the Iowa border in Missouri, South Dakota, Illinois, Minnesota and Nebraska to collect the use tax on sales made over the counter to Iowa residents. The court felt an almost impossible burden would be put on the stores in trying to ascertain where buyers lived or intended to use the property.

The Federation said the two cases probably would be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Michigan Develops Roadside Tree-Planting Program

The development of Michigan's roadside tree-planting program to beautify state highways, and to prevent heavy drifting of snow over roadways in winter, has just reached the point where it is beginning to serve its purpose, information from the American Society of Planning Officials showed today.

Since the program was started several years ago, the state has been engaged in intensive tree-planting activities, and has purchased many acres of timbered rights-of-way along highways. In 1939, the highway department bought 446 acres of this timber land, bringing its total to 4,312 acres.

The landscaping of the highways, besides beautifying them, has a utilitarian basis and a safety factor. The lines of trees serve to warn motorists of curves ahead. Trees frequently have been planted on straight sections to outline the roadway, and plantings are omitted where they might interfere with a motorist's vision.

The value of timbered land acquired along highways in the northern portion of the state is recognized, the Society said, when figures for snow removal costs show the cost is reduced by one-half in the wooded sections. There the snow does not drift so deeply and there is no need of maintaining snow fences.

* * *

Be

10-Foot Rake Designed by City Official To Clean Bathing Beaches

A novel beach rake "invented" by the Hermosa Beach, Calif., city engineer is used daily to clean seaweed, debris and other unwanted materials from the city's two mile long, 300-foot wide beach, information from the American Public Works Association showed today.

The 10-foot rake--a steel frame with iron teeth digging down into the sand--was designed to keep the beach clean for its 6,000,000 or more yearly visitors. Called a "beachcomber" by Hermosa Beach citizens, the rake is dragged along by a caterpillar tractor which is muffled so that the beach may be cleaned in the early morning hours without disturbing seaside residents.

The rake also turns the sand under the surface and buries it, thereby solving the problem of getting rid of oil washed onto the beach from oil-burning ships.

* * *

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANNING OFFICIALS SHOWS TODAY

The Department of Planning's exhibit is located in the main hall of the show, and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit is open to the public, and is free of charge.

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The landscaping of the highway, besides beautifying them, has a utilitarian value as well. The lines of trees and shrubs are used to guide the eye, and to provide a sense of direction. The lines of trees and shrubs are used to guide the eye, and to provide a sense of direction.

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JOINT REFERENCE

AUG 6 1940

LIBRARY

EDITOR'S NOTE: American local governments will have an increasingly vital part to play in the nation's defense program. They must assume new functions associated with defense, and at the same time preserve their normal services despite the diversion of energy to new fields. Seeking guidance for American local government, the American Municipal Association surveyed the experience of British local government in the defense program of that country. Following is the first of three stories based on the Association's report.

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Drastic alterations made in the organization and duties of British local governments as a result of the British defense program are outlined in a report released today by the American Municipal Association.

Materials "that seem most pertinent to the problems that American local government may be called upon to solve" were compiled by the Association from British local government journals, in response to queries from American municipal officials regarding their possible role in the defense program of this country.

Long before the war came, the preparedness program alone had disturbed more or less seriously the normal functioning of every municipal department in Britain. During the war months the pressure grew increasingly heavy.

Finance officers had to contend with the demand for economy, the order to cease borrowing, the rise in costs of materials and the drop in tax revenue.

Officials responsible for recruiting personnel found their difficulties multiplied--first, by the loss of municipal employes to the armed forces; second, by the demand for expansion of all departments assisting in civil defense.

Police officers had to deal with sabotage, organize air raid protection, control traffic during blackouts. Fire departments established auxiliary corps, equipped new stations and developed emergency water supplies.

City engineers took over the job of building air raid shelters in public places, of training demolition and rescue squads, and of protecting municipal utilities and other property from air raids.

Welfare programs had to be adjusted to the rise in the cost of living. Public housing authorities faced new rent collection worries. Public health officers, besides mobilizing hospital and first-aid services, were concerned with the spread of diseases which arise from population movement and congregation.

All departments of local government collaborated with the national officials in the vast program of evacuation--moving 1,500,000 persons in three days in September, 1939, and a smaller number in June, 1940.

Finally, there was a whole series of new duties thrust on cities and counties--registration of all civilians, food rationing, and food production in parks and on vacant land.

Even the structure of British local government was modified. The traditional administration by a group of council committees was supplanted in some cities by a single emergency committee and a controller, and municipal elections were suspended by Parliament until after the war.

The basis of the British grant-in-aid system--that local government must make some contribution to each aided activity--was abandoned, and many emergency measures were financed by 100 per cent grants from the national treasury.

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NOTE: American local governments will have an increasingly vital part to play in the nation's defense program. They must assume new functions and responsibilities. The American Municipal Association has long been a leading force for American local government, and the American Municipal Association has long been a leading force for American local government. The American Municipal Association has long been a leading force for American local government. The American Municipal Association has long been a leading force for American local government.

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and their possible role in the defense program of their country. Long before the war came, the prewar defense program was well advanced. The war months the pressure grew increasingly heavy. Finance officers had to contend with the demand for money, the order to borrowing, the rise in costs of materials and the drop in tax revenue.

Police officers had to deal with riotous, dangerous and wild behavior. New stations and developed emergency water supplies. City engineers had to deal with the problem of training demolition and rescue squads, and of protecting municipal buildings and other property from air raids.

Warfare programs had to be adjusted to the rise in the cost of living. This included the use of time and labor, and the use of time and labor. This included the use of time and labor, and the use of time and labor. This included the use of time and labor, and the use of time and labor.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the second of three stories based on a survey made by the American Municipal Association of the role of British local government in the defense program of that country. The first dealt with general aspects; the article below concerns the recruitment, training, organization and compensation of regular and emergency employes.

----O----

More than 1,200,000 persons--one out of every 40 persons in all of Great Britain--were enrolled by local governments in emergency civil defense work before the end of 1939, the American Municipal Association said today in its report on the part played by Great Britain's local governments in its national defense program. A drive to boost the number still higher was launched early in 1940.

The new employes, mostly unpaid volunteers, were assigned to auxilliary fire or police organizations, to first-aid, rescue and wrecking crews, to air raid control centers, to emergency hospital employment and to all of the other varied phases of air raid precautions, or "A.R.P." The number of firemen, for example, rose from 20,000 to 200,000.

The attempt to staff the emergency organizations primarily with volunteers led in some instances to grave deficiencies in the A.R.P. units, British commentators said. Particularly, it was hard to retain the interest of volunteers during the early months of inaction.

By June, when total war on England appeared imminent, some local officials expressed deep concern over the defection of civil defense volunteers. The government launched a new drive for recruits in all branches. One county council circulated a resolution for compulsory attendance at lectures and drills, and the influential Municipal Journal supported this stand, commenting: "A soldier in the front line cannot throw down his rifle and hand in his resignation. Why should this privilege be allowed to those in the Civil Defense Services?"

Every one of the 1,200,000 or more persons in the emergency services had to be given some training, usually from nine to 20 hours, British writers said. Including retraining, the total amount of instruction was well over 15,000,000 man-hours--undoubtedly the most intensive program of civilian training ever undertaken by any democratic government, and most of it in pioneer fields.

Most local governments agreed to pay supplemental wages to employes entering the war services, in order to bring their war pay up to peacetime levels. Local governments which refused to do so were "blacklisted" by the National Association of Local Government Officials (an employe organization). All employes entering the war services were guaranteed reinstatement and pension rights.

One result of the loss of men employes was the opportunity given women. British magazines commented on "the spectacular flight of women to pinnacles of administrative power." Women were also recruited as ambulance drivers, communications operators, record keepers, drivers in the Auxiliary Fire Service, police officers, and for a variety of duties connected with evacuation.

Many employes were released when normal work was curtailed in some departments. For example, work was halted on 50,000 houses under construction by public authorities, except where the homes were nearly finished, and no new foundations were laid. In the spring of 1940 all road construction was ordered stopped except where required by national defense, most of the released labor being transferred to agriculture.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the last of three stories based on a survey made by the American Municipal Association of the role of British local government in the defense program of that country. The first dealt with general problems, and the second with the personnel difficulties of cities and counties before and during the war. The article below considers problems of finance and of the anti-waste campaign.

---O---

Local government budgets in Great Britain were violently affected when the national defense program got under way in earnest, the report of the American Municipal Association revealed today.

Besides bringing housing and road construction to a virtual stop, the central government required local governments to cease borrowing for any projects not of "pressing necessity," and proposals for loans over \$40,000 had to be submitted for treasury approval with proof that they could not be "avoided, postponed or reduced."

Even though 100 per cent grants were made for air raid precautions, local costs went up. One outstanding opportunity for cutting costs was in street lighting--due to blackouts--but in some cases existing contracts with private utilities prevented reduction even there. Property valuation declined because of a decrease in the income from many properties--particularly in localities considered vulnerable to air attack.

The cost of living rose 14 per cent in the first five months of war from a point already well above normal peacetime levels. Welfare clients had to be paid proportionally more. So did regular municipal employees. Some localities placed their increases in relief and salaries on a sliding scale automatically adjusted to the cost of living, but this method made budget planning ineffective.

Welfare authorities were forced by rising costs to systematically recheck the eligibility of relief clients. Some cities eliminated many cases because the income of relatives had risen.

Municipal utilities were beset by higher costs for coal and gasoline, higher interest rates, new expenditures for defense against air raids, demands for extensions to new industrial plants, and creation of new peak periods by altered industrial schedules. Many had to raise their charges.

In the national campaign against waste, local governments had three important duties:

1. They supervised the rationing of meat, butter, sugar and other foods through committees of retailer and consumer representatives.
2. They divided public and private land into "allotments" for the growing of crops. The aim was 500,000 allotments, so that any family desiring a vegetable plot could have one. Cities were authorized to take unoccupied private land for allotments without the owner's consent. The London County Council set aside 6,600 plots of 150 square yards each in 60 public parks. Public housing projects removed their bans on poultry raising.
3. They organized a systematic salvage of waste paper, tins and other metals, rags, glass, bones and hog feed from household refuse. In some cases school children brought paper and scrap metal to school each day. Threats of fine and imprisonment faced householders who refused to separate their garbage according to orders. As a result, 934 local governments reported collection during April of 17,000 tons of paper and 14,000 tons of metal.

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Terms For Assessing Officers Vary Greatly In United States

While assessing officers in the United States serve terms ranging from a year or less in most North Carolina counties to "during good behavior" in Paterson, N.J., two-year terms are most common, a study of 21,000 primary assessment districts by the National Association of Assessing Officers showed today.

The two-year term is found in 40 per cent of the assessment districts, four-year terms in 31 per cent, and one-year terms in 20 per cent, according to the study by the Association's Committee on Assessment Organization and Personnel. Three-year terms account for only six per cent of the total, and five- and six-year terms, and indefinite terms, account for less than one per cent each.

Terms of assessors seem to run concurrently and uniform in length in most of the 29 states wholly divided into county assessment districts, while variations in terms were reported for the remaining 19 states by the Association.

Generally speaking, county assessors are elected at regular November elections to serve two- or four-year terms; township assessors are elected at regular spring "town meetings" to serve terms of one or two years; and municipal assessors are appointed soon after the person or body making the appointment takes office. County assessors usually take office in January, township assessors upon election, and municipal assessors upon appointment.

States in which the majority of assessors serve one-year terms: Maine, Michigan, North Carolina, South Dakota and Wisconsin; two-year terms--Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas; three-year terms--Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Four-year terms are universal or most common in Alabama, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

All county assessors in Georgia and a third of the town and city assessors in Rhode Island serve six-year terms.

The Association pointed out that although assessors in the greater number of states serve four-year terms, the greater number of assessment districts are not necessarily in these states.

The two-year term is found in 10 per cent of the membership districts.

Associations Committee on Association Organization and Personnel. Three per cent account for only six per cent of the total, and five- and six-year terms, and finite terms, account for less than one per cent each.

Terms of association seem to be more nearly equal and uniform in length in non-union states which divided the membership districts, while associations in union states were reported for the remaining 12 states by the Association.

of "town meetings" to serve terms of one or two years; and municipal associations appointed soon after the person in body making the appointment takes office. Only associations usually take office in January, township associations upon election, and municipal associations upon appointment.

States in which the majority of associations serve the four-year term:

Alaska, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; two-year terms - Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, and Ohio.

One-year terms - New Hampshire and Vermont.

Four-year terms are universal or most common in Alabama, California,

St. Louis Takes Another Step In Smoke Prevention Campaign

Another step in the St. Louis smoke prevention campaign was taken recently when the board of aldermen set up a \$300,000 revolving fund to be used, in an emergency, for the purchase and distribution to consumers of smokeless fuel, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The appropriation was made under a provision of the drastic smoke prevention ordinance adopted this year by St. Louis. The provision, unique in municipal legislation, empowers the city to declare an emergency and buy smokeless fuel for distribution to consumers if an adequate supply cannot be secured through commercial coal dealers.

The new St. Louis smoke ordinance requires smokeless fuel--defined as containing less than 25 per cent volatile matter--for hand-fired and surface-fired furnaces. Sale of fuel containing more than 12 per cent ash or 2 per cent sulphur on a dry basis is prohibited.

In requiring smokeless fuel, St. Louis officials hope that restrictions on the use of unprocessed high volatile coals will create a large market for smokeless fuels and make possible a reduction in their prices. Officials said the city will not enter the coal business unless absolutely necessary.

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Police-Communication-Radio*

Two-Way Police Radio Cuts Major Crime In Cleveland By 17 Per Cent

Cleveland's two-way police radio system and a zone patrol system, in full operation for the first time last year, have been given credit for the 17 per cent drop in the city's major crime rate in 1939, information to the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today. The percentage decrease represented 1,177 fewer felonies in 1939 than in 1938.

Under Cleveland's police-radio system, three transmitting stations located in different sections of the city give complete radio coverage to Cleveland and more than 50 suburbs. Two-way radio equipment is installed in about 100 zone patrol cars, and in detective cruisers, patrol wagons and emergency cars. The zone patrols, through more complete communications, are able to cover the scene of a crime more speedily than before.

Capt. Chester I. Burnett, head of Cleveland's police record bureau, said the largest comparative drop in major crimes was in automobile manslaughter, which decreased 45 per cent. Other decreases: robberies, 32 per cent; shootings, 41 per cent; safe crackings, 41 per cent; pocket picking, 41 per cent; and auto stealing, 37 per cent. These decreases were offset partly by increases in attempted burglaries, house breaking and larceny.

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Information for the first time last year, have been given credit for the 17 per cent increase in the city's major crime rate in 1939, information to the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today. The percentage decrease represented 177 fewer felonies in 1939 than in 1938.

Sections of the city give complete radio coverage to Clearing and 50 suburbs. Two-way radio equipment is installed in about 100 some ward of cars.

Interstate Cooperation Commissions Solve Many Trade Barrier Problems

Interstate cooperation commissions of at least 30 states have ironed out many disputes arising within the last year from conflicting regulations governing interstate movement of motor vehicles and dairy and farm products, and problems in the fishing, river sanitation and pollution fields.

Disputes caused by laws hampering the interstate movement of trucks and passenger cars--such as discriminatory fees and regulations--received the attention of most of the cooperation commissions, with at least 20 states negotiating or entering into agreements cancelling restrictive requirements.

A recent Indiana-Alabama agreement, for example, provides for complete reciprocity on private carriers of the two states, with the single exception that trucks must not overstay a period of five days in either state. Texas and Louisiana agreed that residents of one state who work in the other may have free passage as they wish, eliminating the need for license plates of both states.

Other problems as important were solved by interstate cooperation, according to the Council of State Governments, which sponsored the interstate cooperation movement. Interstate dairy problems were scrutinized at a meeting of dairy technicians recently in Chicago, and delegates adopted resolutions revising milk sanitation and inspection standards to make them more uniform.

The Illinois Liquor Control commission now is enforcing a new plan to check the bootlegging of Illinois liquor in neighboring states as a result of a recent conference of representatives of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin on conflicting state liquor regulations.

Cooperation among four states solved interstate fishing and trapping disputes. Florida and Georgia in 1939 repealed high non-resident license fees on shrimp boats. The fees were considered hard to collect and easy to avoid. Cooperation between New York and Vermont resulted in New York's regulating muskrat trapping on Lake Champlain, which lies along the New York-Vermont boundary line.

(MORE)

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no motor vehicle may be operated for a period of five days in either state.

It is noted that residents of one state who work in the other may have their licenses as they

eliminating the need for license plates of both states.

Other problems as important were solved by interstate cooperation, according

to Council of State Governments, which sponsored the interstate cooperation

and. Interstate dairy problems were eliminated at a meeting of dairy technicians

in Chicago, and delegates adopted resolutions relating with sanitation and

standards to make them more uniform.

The Illinois Liquor Control Commission now is enforcing a new law to check

the bootlegging of Illinois liquor in neighboring states as a result of a recent

conference of representatives of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Cooperation among four states solved interstate fishing and trapping

Florida and Georgia in 1939 repealed their non-resident license fees on

the fees were considered hard to collect and easy to avoid. Cooperation

Compacts designed to reduce or eliminate pollution of the Ohio and Delaware rivers are being worked out under supervision of interstate cooperation commissions. Kentucky this year joined Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, New York and West Virginia in ratifying the Ohio river sanitation compact. However, although five states must sign the agreement to make it effective, the Kentucky and West Virginia ratifications were made with the reservation that certain other states must sign before their agreements become valid.

The transfer of dependents in the public welfare field also received attention. The most recent agreement was negotiated by the Vermont attorney general, who is chairman of the state's cooperation commission, with Maine and New Hampshire. Vermont previously had entered into such an agreement with New York. The New York and Pennsylvania commissions also have worked out problems relating to the transfer of dependents.

State boundary line disputes came within the scope of cooperation commissions, especially in Indiana and Kentucky. In this case the dispute arose over which state should police Green River Island in the Ohio river between the states. Because of the dispute, neither state had policed the territory, and "certain lawless elements" were alleged to have taken it over. It was suggested that Indiana should obtain jurisdiction over the island through legislation proposed for the state's 1941 legislative session, and negotiations are still proceeding. Kansas and Missouri also settled a boundary dispute.

Missouri and Kansas have solved a problem of lawyer recognition through cooperation. There had been complaints that officers of Missouri probate courts failed to extend full faith and credit to documents submitted by Kansas attorneys certifying their authority to act as legal representatives of Kansas decedents. A satisfactory solution was worked out to overcome this peculiar type of trade barrier.

* * *

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AUG 2 1940

War Brings Marked Alterations In Budgets Of National Governments

Marked alterations in the fiscal profiles of most of the great nations have been caused by the present war, an analysis by the Federation of Tax Administrators showed today. While the effect has been most pronounced in the nations engaged in war, the United States budget also has been affected by rapidly increasing defense preparations.

Great Britain, according to the Federation, plans to spend about four times as much in the current fiscal year -- April 1, 1940, to April 1, 1941 -- as it did in the comparatively normal fiscal period of 1936-37. Canadian expenditures will be about two and a half times the 1936-37 level, while in the United States the latest supplementary budget proposals would bring expenditures up to more than one and a half times the amount spent in 1936-37.

Per Capita Increases In Costs of Government Because of the European War

	United States		Canada		Great Britain	
	1936-37	1940-41	1936-37	1940-41	1936-37	1940-41
Taxes	\$ 40	\$ 50	\$ 35	\$ 61	\$ 81	\$ 135
Expenditures	66	104	48	117	93	354
Debt	263	361	316	387	703	1,025

1937 figures obtained from official reports for each country; 1940-41 figures computed from budget estimates plus supplementary tax and expenditure measures and proposals. In translating British pounds to dollars, the old ratio of 4.87 to 1 was used so a comparison might be made in familiar terms. In keeping the rates constant, the figures reflect accurately the internal impact of the war upon the fiscal affairs of Great Britain, although there was a decided fluctuation in the foreign exchange rate of the pound.

Great Britain's expenditures during the present fiscal year will be about \$354 per capita, compared with a normal per capita national income of \$514, according to the budget presented July 23 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Canada's prospective expenditures of \$117 compare with the 1936-37 per capita national income of \$282. The expenditure-national income figures for the United States will be about \$104 as against \$557.

Although much less has been made public about statistics of public finance in Germany, the Federation said, about 47 per cent of the national income was being

(MORE)

Financial Alternatives in Budgets of National Governments

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Per Capita Income in Great Britain and the European War

1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104
£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104
£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104	£ 104

It is not possible to estimate the effect of the war on the per capita income of the European countries. In translating British pounds to dollars, the old ratio of 4.84 to 1 was used as a comparison might be made in familiar terms. In keeping the ratio constant, the figures reflect accurately the internal aspect of the war upon the fiscal situation of the country.

Great Britain's expenditures during the present fiscal year will be about 40 per cent, compared with a normal per capita national income of \$104, according to a budget presented July 23 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Canada's five expenditures of \$117 compare with the 1936-37 per capita national income. The expenditure-national income figures for the United States will be about

PAGE 2---add war financing of national governments x x x was being

absorbed by taxes in 1938-39 as a result of the long war preparations, according to estimates available in the United States. In August, 1939, Germany's debt was estimated at 50,000,000,000 marks -- or about \$252 per capita. At present, Germany's governmental expenditures are estimated at \$19,200,000,000 annually, with taxes producing about \$9,600,000,000, or \$121 per capita. The Federation said these figures include various forms of social security payments and other contributions to governmental activities such as winter relief.

Although the war has imposed a great burden on Great Britain, the Federation said the present disparity between the figures for Britain and those for Canada and the United States is not so large as it would seem because in normal times the British national government carries on a far greater proportion of the total governmental activities than the national governments of Canada and the United States.

The fiscal year 1936-37 was used for comparison by the Federation because it was the year preceding augmented defense preparations in Europe, and a comparatively normal business year for the United States. Budget estimates for 1940-41 were used because they reflect the result of a full year's engagement in the war by Canada and the United Kingdom, and almost a full year of emergency defense preparations in the United States. The 1940-41 estimates may, of course, be revised before the end of the year.

With the volume of governmental expenditures for carrying on the war absorbing a major portion of Britain's productive output, the problem of war finance has been coupled with that of preventing inflation, the Federation said. As a result, an effort is being made by the British government to finance a much larger portion of war costs by taxation than was done during the last war.

In the July 23 budget proposals, a "purchase tax" new to Great Britain was urged in order to restrict consumption, and thereby prevent inflation resulting from the demand for goods increasing beyond the war-limited supply, and to raise revenue calculated at 110,000,000 pounds a year. The proposed purchase tax would be levied on luxuries at the rate of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the wholesale price or 24 per cent of the retail price, and on necessities at 12 per cent of the retail price.

John Maynard Keynes, eminent British economist, has proposed that purchasing power be turned over to the government through a system of "forced saving," or compulsory loans. The loans would be paid back after the war, preventing inflation now and easing the transition to a peacetime economy later, Keynes believes.

* * *

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Travel

State-Owned Cars Save Kansas Money On Employee Travel Expenses

State ownership of passenger automobiles used on public business in Kansas has resulted in a 35 to 50 per cent saving on cars that roll up heavy annual mileage, by comparison with the allowance of five cents a mile for private cars, information from the Council of State Governments showed today.

In 1937 Kansas made it mandatory for state departments to furnish cars to employees driving more than 18,000 miles a year on state business, and optional for those driving at least 12,000 miles annually. The savings since have amounted to more than 2 cents per mile at average annual mileages ranging from 22,000 to 26,000 miles, according to a recent study by the Kansas Legislative Council.

The Kansas state government now owns 424 passenger cars, more than one-half of which are operated by the highway department, and the remainder by 39 other state agencies. The total cost per mile of state cars, according to reports from the various state departments, ranges from 2.0 to 4.8 cents. Operating costs, excluding depreciation, vary from 1.3 to 2.8 cents a mile, while depreciation has been reported to range from 0.45 to 2.0 cents a mile. Most of the state cars are of the light, low-priced class.

State cars are assigned either permanently to specific individuals or temporarily to employees, as needed, from departmental pools. In the majority of departments using state cars, each car is permanently assigned, and the employee is responsible for the proper operation and care of the car at all times. A few departments pool state cars for the use of several employees whose joint annual travels amount to more than 12,000 miles a year.

The study suggests that a special division, similar to those set up in Iowa and Pennsylvania, be established to purchase and regulate state cars, as a means of improving supervision and effecting savings.

The question of the economy of state-owned vs. privately-owned cars used on state business has concerned other states, according to the Council of State Governments. A recent Nebraska study showed that 19 of 42 state agencies operate state automobiles. Operating costs of state cars for nine of the agencies ranged from 2 to 3.7 cents a mile.

Both Kansas and Nebraska allow 5 cents a mile to those employees driving their own cars on state business. This allowance is typical in at least a dozen states. Other states make allowances ranging from 4 to 8 cents a mile. At least three states, -- Delaware, Maine and South Dakota -- have instituted "stepped" rates, on the principle of decreasing costs per mile with increasing mileage.

The Council of State Governments showed today.

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employees driving more than 18,000 miles a year on state business, and optional for
those driving at least 12,000 miles annually. The savings since have amounted to
more than 2 cents per mile of average annual mileage, ranging from 12,000 to 25,000
miles, according to a recent study of the Kansas Legislative Council.

The Kansas state government now owns 100 passenger cars, most of which are
operated by the highway department, and the remainder by 19 other state

and state departments, ranging from 2.0 to 4.8 cents. Of working cars, excluding
rotation, vary from 1.5 to 2.5 cents a mile, while depreciation has been reported
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Tax collection

Advertising Campaigns Bring Increases In Tax Collections

Governmental advertising, which has branched out in recent years from the field of routine legal notices to the promotion of the industrial or vacation advantages of states and cities, is now being used to stimulate the payment of taxes, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada said today.

The state of Michigan, Ingham county in Michigan, the City of Detroit, and Greenburgh, N.Y., are among the governmental units reporting that advertising campaigns resulted in greatly increased tax collections. Newspapers, the radio, and billboards were advertising mediums used in the campaigns.

Michigan's campaign began in 1935, when \$75,000 was appropriated by the state legislature for a four-month program to educate taxpayers concerning a 10-year installment-payment plan for delinquent taxes. As a result of the campaign, more than \$15,000,000 in cash was collected, and taxes representing \$60,000,000 were placed on the 10-year plan.

In 1936 Michigan appropriated \$15,000 to urge through advertisements the payment of the second installment under the 10-year plan, while in 1937 an appropriation of \$25,000 was spent in calling attention to installment payments due, and to inform taxpayers of minor changes in the act allowing installment payments.

Ingham county spent \$5,000 several years ago in a special campaign to collect \$3,000,000 in delinquent taxes. During the campaign, more than \$2,000,000 was either collected in cash or placed on the 10-year plan. Detroit has conducted similar tax collection campaigns.

Greenburgh used 4,500 lines of display advertising in local newspapers in March to stimulate tax collections, and reported to the Association that for April the collections amounted to 74 per cent of the levy compared with 69 per cent in April of 1939.

4,500,000 Persons In Government Service In United States

Approximately four and one-half million persons in the United States are now employed in government service in federal, state and local offices on an annual payroll of \$6,000,000,000, according to the 1940 census of the merit system made by the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

About 1,200,000, or more than one-fourth, of these employees are in public education. More than one-half of the total number are in other non-military services.

At the first of 1940, nearly 29 per cent of the total number of government employees were listed on the federal payroll; 12 per cent at the state level; about 21 per cent in city government; and 12 per cent on county and township payrolls. Many in the last group are part-time and temporary.

The total number of government workers increased from 1929 to 1931, decreased in 1932 and 1933, and continued to increase from the latter date, until it reached an all-time high in 1939. Compared with 10 years ago, the total number of employees at all levels of government now is nearly 43 per cent higher.

The largest proportional increase has been at the state level, with the states increasing the number of their employees during the past ten years from 297,000 to 540,000. The greatest numerical increase has been in the federal service, which in 1929 employed 862,000, and at the first of this year was employing 1,296,000. During this period, the number of city employees increased from 718,000 to 940,000, and of counties and miscellaneous governmental units, from 269,000 to more than 500,000. Educational employees have remained at about the same numerical level.

Salaries and wages paid federal, state and local government employees during the ten-year period 1929-1939 went up from a total of \$4,938,000,000 to an estimated maximum of \$6,180,000,000, according to the study.

With respect to the number of employees covered, the merit system has made considerable progress during the past 10 years, the study said. At the beginning of the 1930's, about 80 per cent of the positions in the executive branch of the federal government were under civil service. The proportion then declined to almost 60 per cent, but is now back to more than 70 per cent, with the actual number close to double that of 1930.

* * *

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...of \$6,160,000,000, according to the study. ...

Unique Elevating Curbs To Relieve Traffic Congestion On Chicago's Outer Drive

A unique system of elevating curbs can convert Chicago's new eight-lane highway, under construction north of the business district, into separate roadways of two, four or six lanes each, information from the American Public Works Association showed today. When the convertible highway is completed, it is expected to play a major part in relieving traffic congestion in the Lincoln park area during "heavy volume" periods in the morning and evening.

The elevating curbs will be used on the two-mile stretch of the road just north of the "loop," which is being doubled in width since it carries 40 per cent of all traffic to and from the principal business district of Chicago. Because three-fourths of the traffic moves north in the evening and south in the morning, the elevating curbs were needed to provide a six-lane highway for the rush-hour traffic, and four lanes each way for other hours. Three lines of curb in the pavement make up the system. One is laid along the center-line of the eight-lane highway, with a curb two lanes away on each side. Each curb is 19 inches wide, and can be raised eight inches. Lights beneath the curbs shine through regularly-spaced holes for night visibility. When not raised, the curbs are flush with the pavement.

Each line of curb, divided into 25-foot sections, retracts into an under-pavement slot. In each slot are hydraulic jacks with a lifting power of 12 tons, and powerful springs with a retracting power of 10 tons. Electrically controlled pressure pumps raise the jacks, which lift the curb sections. When the pressure is released, the springs draw the sections back flush with the pavement.

Each curb is raised by sections, with a control switch at the end of the curb starting the train of movement. When the first section is raised to a certain height, the next section automatically starts to raise; the second section starts the third section, and so on. Although it takes about six minutes to raise the two miles of curb, the retracting operation requires only 10 to 20 seconds. This is because the hydraulic pressure can be released all at once.

The convertible highway is a part of the program, now nearly completed, of modernizing the Lincoln park highway system. Many drives that formerly divided the park into areas of little recreational value are being eliminated, and a portion of the traffic using these roads will be forced onto the main drive.

How Curb Traffic Congestion On Chicago's Outer Drive

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The elevating curbs will be used on the two-mile stretch of the road just north of the city center. It is a section of the new highway that will be used to handle traffic to and from the principal business district of Chicago. Because three of the traffic moves north in the evening and south in the morning, the elevating curbs were needed to provide a six-lane highway for the peak-hour traffic. Four lanes each way for other hours. Three lines of curb in the pavement make up the system. One is laid along the center-line of the eight-lane highway, with a curb on each side. Each curb is 19 inches wide, and can be raised eight feet. Lights beneath the curbs show through regularly-spaced holes for night visibility. When not raised, the curbs are flush with the pavement. Each line of curb, divided into 20-foot sections, extends into an underground slot. In each slot are hydraulic jacks with a lifting power of 10 tons, and a spring with a retracting power of 10 tons. Mechanically controlled pressure pumps raise the jacks, which lift the curb sections. When the pressure is released, the jacks draw the sections back flush with the pavement.

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The convertible highway is a part of the program, now nearly completed, of

San Francisco Adopts One-Man Patrol Cars

San Francisco is now assigning one instead of two police officers to each patrol car, thus releasing more than 50 uniformed officers for patrol duty, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

Police Chief Charles W. Dullea said that for 99 out of 100 radio calls one officer was found sufficient to handle the complaint, and in the event of a more serious situation, extra cars could be ordered to respond.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation last year reported that in 373 cities of over 5,000 population, 28 used one-man patrol cars only, 182 used two-man cars only, and 161 used combinations of one-man and two-man cars. Many of the cities using a combination plan operate two-man cars during night hours only.

* * *

Cigarette Tax Applied By Package In Four Of 26 Cigarette Tax States

Only four of the 26 states which tax cigarettes place the tax on sales by the package, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today. The states are Alabama, Arizona, Kansas and Oklahoma.

In Arizona and Kansas, the tax is levied per 20 cigarettes, which is the number in the ordinary package. The Oklahoma tax is levied on packages of 10, 20 and 50, while the Alabama tax is placed on packages of 10 or more.

In the other 22 states, cigarette taxes are imposed in various ways--as a percentage of the selling price, or by thousands, by tens or per cigarette.

The Federation pointed out that of the seven cities imposing municipal cigarette taxes, five tax by the package. The five are Birmingham, Ala.; and Chipley, DeFuniak Springs, Marianna, and Pensacola, Fla.

* * *

CORRECTION: In 5th paragraph of PACH News Bulletin story of Tuesday, July 23, please delete operated by the city. In last paragraph of same story make it read: The Philadelphia parking plan has been, etc.

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graph of each news bulletin story of Thursday.
the city. In last paragraph of same story main
been, etc.

Voters May Be Disfranchised In 47 States For Many Reasons

The American citizen's privilege of voting can be denied him for any one of 50 or more reasons, the Council of State Governments said today after a study of disqualifications for voting in the 48 states.

Every state except Michigan can, under its statutes, bar a person from the polls for at least one reason, while state election laws of South Carolina and Alabama disqualify for 28 and 25 reasons respectively.

The disqualifications are classed for the most part in two categories--one dealing with persons convicted of certain crimes, and the other with insane persons, idiots, incompetents, illiterates and paupers. The study also covered qualifications for voting, including the usual age, residence and registration requirements, and the poll tax.

The most general disqualification in the first category is conviction for a felony, with 40 states barring persons from voting on this count. The Council pointed out that many crimes enumerated in some states are classified under the general term "felony" in other states. For example, Illinois may disfranchise for conviction of a felony, which might include many crimes listed separately by other states. Persons disfranchised for conviction of a crime may regain the right to vote through a restoration of civil rights.

Persons convicted of electoral bribery can be disfranchised in 34 states, while persons convicted of treason will not be allowed to vote in 15 states. Dueling will take away the right to vote in eight states--California, Connecticut, Florida, Mississippi, Nevada, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin. A convicted bigamist may be disfranchised in Alabama, Idaho, Mississippi and South Carolina, while a conviction of betting on an election can bar a person from voting in Florida, Indiana, New York, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Other crimes for which a conviction disqualifies a voter in many states include perjury, larceny, forgery, arson, adultery, embezzlement, malfeasance in office, miscegenation, receiving stolen goods, and wife beating.

Thirty-eight states bar insane persons from voting, and 37 bar idiots, according to the Council. Illiterates are barred by 19 states, incompetents by 18 and paupers by 12. Five states may disqualify "immoral" persons, while five other states have legislated against Indians' voting--Rhode Island specifically against Narragansett Indians. Provisions against Indians, the Council said, usually are directed against those on government-supported reservations.

Although Michigan has no statutory disqualifications and other states many, the Council said that the number of disqualifications in more than half the states ranges between five and seven. Illinois and Pennsylvania have only one each--conviction for felony and bribery respectively--while Vermont has two.

Laws of all but four states prohibit soldiers and sailors from voting in the state in which they are stationed, although they usually may vote in the state of their legal residence by absentee ballot.

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Iowa Determined To Cut Traffic Fatalities By State-Wide Campaign

Determined to show a decrease this year in traffic fatalities, which in 1939 took 530 lives, state and municipal officials of Iowa are cooperating in an intensive safety education and enforcement drive, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

Gov. George A. Wilson of Iowa opened the campaign in June by designating the month as "Safety Emphasis Month." The slogan "Start Sooner, Drive Slower, Live Longer" was carried to every section of the state by daily and weekly newspapers and the radio. Daily press releases, and radio spot announcements and short programs, were constant reminders of highway safety.

The four weeks of the month were entitled "Safety Affects You Week," "Pedestrian vs. Motor Vehicle Week," "Local Activity Week," and "Safest State Week." Publicity material was consistent with each week's theme.

A campaign for better accident reporting has the support and cooperation of municipal and county police officers, county attorneys, coroners and mayors of all sections of the state. Karl W. Fischer, Iowa's commissioner of public safety, has presided at meetings in each of the state's 10 highway patrol districts, and has pointed out the need for complete reports--showing how, when and where accidents occur.

"Accidents are traffic failures, and the records of how they occur are the best clues to prevention of others like them," Commissioner Fischer says.

In addition to "Safety Emphasis Month" and the better reporting campaign, the safety drive extends to all county and district fairs, and to the state fair. Field representatives of the safety education division visit each fair, erecting huge banners which warn visitors to "Take Time to Live--Drive Carefully." Highway accident prevention measures are stressed through safety exhibits.

The State Safety Council and the Iowa highway patrol figure prominently in all the activities. Through addresses and motion pictures they urge safe driving, stress the importance of accident reporting and emphasize the need of cooperation between county and city peace officers for a better enforcement program.

The organizations also are continuing their educational program for youths of school age. City and town councils throughout the state are adopting bicycle ordinances which authorize the licensing of all bicycles and set up safety equipment standards and rules for riding.

Continued To Our Traffic Section By State-Wide Campaign

Determined to show a decrease this year in traffic fatalities, which in 1934

with education and enforcement drive, the International Association of Chiefs of

Gov. George A. Wilson of Iowa opened the campaign in June by designating the

of highway safety.

The four weeks of the month were entitled "Safety Affairs For Week,"
"Motor Vehicle Week," "Local Activity Week," and "Safety Week."
Publicity material was consistent with each week's theme.

A campaign for better accident reporting was the subject and cooperation of
all police officers, county attorneys, coroners and mayors of all
counties of the state. Karl W. Fischer, Iowa's commissioner of public safety, has
presided at meetings in each of the state's 10 highway patrol districts, and has
pointed out the need for complete reports--showing how, when and where accidents occur.
"Accidents are traffic failures, and the records of how they occur are the

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which authorize the licensing of all bicycles and set up safety equipment

Road Tests Help Cities Get Best Paint For Traffic Lines

In an effort to secure the most satisfactory paint for marking traffic lines, a number of cities are putting the paint offered by manufacturers to road performance tests, information from the American Public Works Association showed today.

Of 26 cities surveyed in connection with a report on traffic paint experience to be issued soon by the Association, seven reported making the paint performance tests. They were Birmingham, Cincinnati, Detroit, Los Angeles, Phoenix, St. Louis and Washington, D.C.

Several of these cities were among the 14 which said they used specifications for traffic paint, while two others reported that they bought traffic paint according to specifications set up by their state highway departments.

The cities try to make field tests under as equal conditions as possible, according to the survey. They find that the durability of painted traffic lines depends on such things as the type and condition of the pavement, the method of cleaning pavement surfaces before paint is applied, climatic conditions, the type of paint used and the volume of traffic. Good visibility, especially the retention of a brilliant color, are important in making traffic paint effective as an inducement to law observance, according to the Association.

Detroit makes its performance test on traffic paint with the aid of the police department, which selects a heavily traveled street for laying the various brands of paint, labeled by code. Observations are made of the flow of the paint, drying time, color retention, day and night visibility and other factors. After 30 days, the observations are repeated before the paint is recommended for purchase.

Phoenix makes a more elaborate field test in cooperation with the state highway department. Test lines eight inches wide and 30 feet long are spray-painted--one pint of paint to a line--on three types of pavement. Checks are made on each paint for time required in application, temperature, amount of "thinner" necessary, and drying time. State and city engineers make nine observations over a period of time, the last report being made 121 days after the paint was applied.

St. Louis and Washington, D.C. make an "accelerated wear test" in a laboratory, in conjunction with a field test. In the laboratory test, discs of pavement material--portland cement, concrete and asphalt--are painted, then are mounted on a special machine and subjected to the abrasive action of a rubber wheel. For paint to be used on heavy-traffic streets, these cities have learned by experience that resistance to abrasion is more important than resistance to weathering.

In an effort to secure the most satisfactory paint for marking highway lines, a number of cities are putting the paint offered by manufacturers to road performance tests. Of 36 cities surveyed in connection with a report on traffic paint performance to be issued soon by the Association, seven reported making the paint performance tests. They were Birmingham, Cincinnati, Detroit, Los Angeles, Portland, St. Louis and Washington, D.C.

Several of these cities were among the 15 which also have made the following observations set up by their state highway departments:

The cities try to make field tests under as equal conditions as possible, according to the survey. They find that the durability of painted lines is influenced on such things as the type and condition of the pavement, the method of applying pavement surface before paint is applied, climatic conditions, the type of paint used and the value of the paint.

Brilliant color, are important in making traffic paint effective as an inducement to drivers, according to the Association.

Detroit makes its performance test on traffic paint with the aid of the highway department, which selects a heavily traveled street for laying the paint. Tests of paint, labeled by color. Observations are made of the flow of the traffic, the observations are repeated before the paint is recommended for purchase. The test makes a more elaborate field test in comparison with the above.

Highway department. Test lines eight inches wide and 30 feet long are spray-painted on the pavement. The test is made on a straight, level, dry pavement, free from traffic, and the test is repeated in application, application, and application.

State and city engineers make nine observations over a period of time. The test is made with the aid of the highway department.

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San Jose Operates Only Municipal Weather Bureau In U.S.

A municipally operated weather bureau, believed to be the only one in the United States, now is in its seventh year of successful operation in San Jose, Calif., the International City Managers' Association said today.

The city took over the bureau in 1933 when the U.S. Weather Bureau decided to close its San Jose bureau because of a reduced appropriation. The city council arranged for the federal bureau to leave its equipment and records in San Jose to be operated and maintained by the city, which also retained the government's meteorologist.

The station remains a cooperative unit in the far-flung network of the U.S. Weather Bureau. In return for furnishing instruments, books and supplies the government receives periodic reports and records from the San Jose station, which is the only bureau in the coastal section between San Francisco and Los Angeles that collects a complete 24-hour climatological record.

The municipal station and the U.S. Weather Bureau cooperate also in issuing frost and storm warnings so vital to the prune and apricot growers of the Santa Clara Valley, of which San Jose is the leading city. Finally, the San Jose bureau prepares daily weather charts on the basis of information broadcast by the government's San Francisco office.

Probably most important to the city are the records the bureau maintains, the Association said. The data aided the city in securing the \$10,000,000 aeronautical research laboratory of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, and proved useful in advertising San Jose's climate.

Other activities of the bureau include standard weather forecasting, local press releases, and observation of miscellaneous weather phenomena. Its bulletins are mailed to federal agencies, engineering and construction firms, railroads, farmers, and food and industrial manufacturers.

The demand for service from the San Jose bureau by governmental agencies and private interests has increased yearly, the Association said.

The International City Managers' Association said today.

The city took over the bureau in 1935 when the U.S. Weather Bureau decided to move its San Jose bureau because of a reduced appropriation. The city council agreed for the federal bureau to leave its equipment and records in San Jose to be stored and maintained by the city, which also retained the government's meteorologist.

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Civil Service Organization Varies Among Cities, Survey Shows

The 869 municipal civil service agencies in the country are set up on a wide variety of legal bases and under many types of organization, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported in a survey today.

Known by more than 50 different terms--although the majority are called "civil service commissions"--the agencies may be set up by the state constitution, by an act of the legislature, by municipal charter or by a local ordinance.

In California, for example, a city whose voters have approved a civil service charter amendment must obtain permission--usually a formality--from the state legislature before civil service becomes effective, although cities may install merit systems by ordinance. In Ohio, the constitution requires that city civil service commissions be established for selecting employes in all municipal departments.

Provisions in the civil service acts of Minnesota, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Wisconsin authorize the state personnel agencies to render technical and administrative service to local jurisdictions for a fee. In New Jersey, similar assistance from the state can be obtained without cost upon approval of municipal voters.

More than three-fourths of all city civil service agencies are of the three-member type, appointed so as to provide overlapping terms and thus to further continuity of policy, according to the survey. Commissions of five members are next high in number. Most of the municipal civil service commissioners hold office for six years, and in a few cities the commissioners serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Mayors make the appointments to city civil service commissions in a majority of the cities, and in the next largest group of cities appointments are made by the city councils. In some cities, the commissioners are selected jointly by city or state officials, employes and civic groups; in others, elected by the people as commissioners or named ex-officio as commissioners after election to other positions. In a few cities they are appointed by the city managers.

Many civil service commissions, especially in the smaller cities, do not employ an executive officer, but elect one of their own members to serve in that capacity. In the larger cities the trend is toward the appointment of a trained, salaried executive to handle all administrative work.

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Concrete Culvert Abutments Removed In Illinois Safety Drive

The concrete walls on both ends of culverts crossing under Illinois highways are being removed as a safety measure by the state highway department, according to the American Public Works Association. At least 44 motorists were killed and 418 injured in crashing into the abutments during a recent 12-month period, the Association said today.

Approximately 1,500 of the concrete culvert abutments already have been removed. They are replaced by low, white wooden posts--one on each side of the highway to mark where the shoulder is narrowed.

The post absorbs some of the shock that a cement wall would not when an automobile crashes into it, the Illinois highway department said. Passengers have a better chance of survival even if the automobile goes into the ditch after hitting a pole than they would if the machine crashed into the abutment.

"The leading causes of culvert accidents were inattention, driving too fast, drinking, and driver asleep or fatigue," the highway department said.

Removal of the concrete abutments was started this spring, and the Illinois highway department will continue until they have been eliminated from the state's primary road system.

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White Flag Flies On Water Bill Day

Householders of Whitewright, Tex., are reminded to pay their water bills by a white flag which the city secretary raises at the city hall on the day before the bills become overdue, according to the American Municipal Association.

Whitewright receives money for water bills from the 1st to the 20th of the month. On the 20th, the flag goes up to warn that after this date a 10 per cent penalty is added.

* * *

Cities May Control Soliciting For Charity By Strong Ordinances

Efforts by cities to control soliciting for charitable purposes may prove unsuccessful unless strong licensing and controlling ordinances are enforced at all times, according to a study by the Houston, Tex., research department, the American Municipal Association said today.

The study was made of ordinances regulating soliciting in 30 cities in or about Houston's population bracket to determine the extent to which solicitors are controlled by permits, investigations, limits to time and expenses of soliciting, financial reports and penalties.

City ordinances covered include those of Rochester, N.Y., Akron, Cleveland, Detroit, Philadelphia, Portland, Ore., Milwaukee, Buffalo, Oakland, Calif., Denver, San Francisco, Baltimore, Boston, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Los Angeles, Indianapolis, Chicago, Dayton, Memphis, Omaha, Dallas, New Orleans, Syracuse, St. Paul, Washington, D.C., Kansas City, Mo., Louisville and Columbus, O.

An analysis of the report shows that city officials in 22 of the cities are made directly responsible for the investigation of applications for permits to solicit, while in six cities boards or commissions conduct the investigations or otherwise pass on the merits or demerits of proposed solicitations.

Twenty cities require detailed applications, including financial reports, budgets for expenses of proposed soliciting, and specific details of how, when, where and why the money raised is to be spent. These applications must be sworn to before a notary public.

Detailed financial information is required by 16 cities, either in the application or after solicitation is completed. Nine of these cities limit expenses of solicitation, including commissions to solicitors; and of the nine, six limit expenses to 25 per cent of the funds obtained. In addition to cities covered by the study, Jackson, Miss., Cincinnati and Oklahoma City limit the amount apportioned to expenses and commissions. Two cities require the posting of bond before the start of any solicitation.

Fees are charged for permits in eight of the cities, the amounts ranging from \$1 in Akron to \$25 in Los Angeles. Dayton's fee is 10 per cent of the amount solicited, with a minimum of \$1,000. Thirteen cities place a limit on the time a permit may be used. The limit is 30 days in Akron, Portland, San Francisco, Dayton, Dallas and Columbus; three months in St. Louis and Indianapolis; and one year in Philadelphia, Oakland and Louisville.

Penalties imposed by the cities for violating their ordinances range as high as a fine of \$1,000 and a year in jail.

The Association pointed out that a number of cities refuse to issue soliciting permits to individuals, others ban "tag days" except on two or three specified days of the year, and a few flatly prohibit begging.

All cities which have established a comprehensive control of soliciting for charity report a marked reduction in the number of applications for permits, according to the Houston study.

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The study was made of ordinances regarding soliciting in 50 cities in or
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City ordinances covered include those of Rochester, N.Y.; Akron, Cleveland,
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Louisiana 18th State To Adopt Civil Service

With adoption of a state civil service act last month, Louisiana became the eighteenth state to employ its workers through a formal merit system, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

Louisiana's new law will not become entirely effective until July 1, 1942, although certain provisions to lay the foundation for the system and to start the machinery for classifying jobs already are in effect.

The civil service act will be administered through a Department of Civil Service, including a state civil service commission appointed by the governor from a list of eligibles submitted by presidents of five colleges in the state, and a director of personnel chosen by the commission. Practically all positions in the state service except elected officers, legislative employes, court employes and the military come under the act. Approximately 16,000 workers, it is estimated, will thus be placed under civil service.

If candidates who are citizens of the state cannot meet qualifications for a certain job, residence requirements may be waived, the law says. Veterans are still given preference, however.

As in the case of civil service laws in several other states, the Louisiana law also permits the state to give personnel services to local governments on their request.

Half of the 18 state merit systems have been adopted since early in 1937, according to the Assembly. These include, besides Louisiana, the systems of Alabama, Connecticut, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Rhode Island and Tennessee. One state, Arkansas, which adopted civil service in 1937, has repealed its merit system. The other nine states which have state civil service laws are California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin.

In addition, several states have set up personnel systems which perform many of the functions of civil service agencies, but do not hold competitive examinations. Among these states are Kentucky, North Carolina and Virginia.

Since the recent amendment to the Social Security Act, effective January 1, 1940, every state operating under the Act--which includes all 48, in some degree--must place its employment security and public assistance employes under civil service.

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The other nine states which have state civil service laws are California, Colorado,

Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Employee Vacation Plan Designed To Better City's Labor Relations

A vacation plan for city employees paid by the hour is one of two employee benefit programs adopted by the Bedford, O., city council recently to foster better employee relations with the city, the International City Managers' Association said today. The other plan is one of group hospitalization furnished through the Hospital Service Association of nearby Cleveland, and paid for by monthly payroll deductions.

The Bedford vacation plan for hourly wage employees was adopted by the city council by amending the city payroll ordinance, which now provides for 52 weeks' pay for 51 weeks' work. This will assure the employee a week's vacation without a loss of wages.

To assure employees of cash saved for their vacations, the payroll deduction savings plan was developed by the Bedford department of finance and a local bank, the Association said. The employee designates the amount he wants deposited in the bank each semi-monthly pay period. The accounts are joint accounts with a city official, but it is understood they are entirely for the benefit of the employee.

Many employees are using the vacation savings plan to build up a savings reserve, the Association said. Vacation savings may be used for emergencies or other worth-while purposes than a vacation. The Association said the savings plan was similar to the municipal credit unions used by many cities in helping employees save.

Bedford is but one of several cities where city employees who work on an hourly basis receive vacations with pay. Others include Chicago, Detroit, New York City, Escanaba, Mich., Minneapolis, San Francisco and Schenectady, where skilled workers and day laborers generally are paid on an hourly basis. In Minneapolis, seasonal and intermittent employees who have been on the city payroll for five or more years and who work on a pro rata basis six months or longer are given vacations of one day for each month employed. In Milwaukee, city employees paid by the hour get two weeks' vacation with pay if there is no more than 30 consecutive days' intermission. in employment. Otherwise they receive one day's vacation for each month worked.

Approximately 80 per cent of Bedford's city employees have joined the group hospitalization plan, and most of them have taken advantage of an optional contract providing hospitalization for members of their families at a small additional cost.

A very low level of pay is paid by the town in the form of a
its program adopted by the Bedford, O., city council recently to provide for
with the city, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters
The other plan is one of group hospitalization furnished through the
Association of nearby Cleveland, and paid for by monthly payroll deductions.
The Bedford vacation plan for hourly wage employees was adopted by the city
united by amending the city payroll ordinance, which now provides for 10 vacation days
for 51 weeks' work. This will ensure the employee a vacation which is a

To assure employees of cash salary for their vacation, the present plan
plan was developed by the Bedford department of finance and a local bank, the
vacation bank. The employee advances the amount of money deposited in the bank
each month during the period. The accounts are total accounts with a daily withdrawal.
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Bedford is not one of several cities which offer employees who work in an
basis positive vacations with pay. Others include Detroit, Detroit, New York

City Finance Officers Use In-Service Training To Learn Modern Techniques

To keep abreast of developments in techniques in the field of local governmental finance, municipal finance officers are taking advantage of a wide range of in-service training programs such as special "schools" held by public agencies, courses offered on the campuses of local colleges, or by correspondence.

"The success of these programs indicates conclusively that public officials want additional training," according to a report of the committee on public service training of the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

"Furthermore, the spread of civil service has increased the necessity of obtaining training in order to advance in various fields, and has caused a genuine desire for materials and opportunities for advanced study."

There has been a great increase in the last few years in the number of public in-service training schools offered by the extension divisions of universities, state leagues of municipalities, and by other agencies. Some are tied directly to efforts of the federal government which, through the George-Deen act, appropriated funds for aid in training government workers.

Scores of colleges and universities now are offering courses in public administration and finance, and about 50 schools offer courses in municipal or other governmental accounting. Many universities, including the state universities of Illinois, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, offer specialized courses in municipal accounting.

Methods used in conducting training programs and courses vary considerably, the report said. Some consist of a series of lectures, while others are informal and more in the nature of a conference. Many schools meet once a year for a two- or three-day period, while others are served by itinerant instructors who may hold a short course on very little notice.

Recent in-service training schools or programs held recently were listed by the Association as follows: At request of the extension division of the Massachusetts State Department of Education, the city auditor of Boston this year gave a series of 16 lectures for finance officers in the Boston area; The Municipal Finance Officers Association of New Jersey sponsored a course consisting of lectures and discussions during an eight-week period; New York City recently concluded a 31-weeks' course for its finance officers on "The Functions and Procedures of the Department of Finance," and Texas municipalities are making plans for a comprehensive series on municipal finance to cover the entire state.

The Association pointed out that all but 10 states had some sort of public service training last year for local government employes, and that grants from federal funds for this purpose amounted to \$90,000. Most of the courses were for firemen and policemen, and about 30,000 firemen and 9,000 policemen attended them.

Training Officers Use In-Service Training To Learn Modern Techniques

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Police - Equipment

Mechanical Target Trains Wilmington Police To Shoot "Under Fire"

Policemen of the Wilmington, Del., department are trained to shoot under fire by engaging in gun battles with a mechanical "bandit" who turns and fires blank cartridges from a .32 calibre revolver at officers in target practice, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

Use of the mechanical gunman has solved the problem of training Wilmington police under actual fighting conditions, according to the Wilmington superintendent of public safety, Andrew J. Kavanaugh. Superintendent Kavanaugh said the mechanical man was perfected after more than a year's experimenting.

The "bandit," a front-view silhouette cut from a quarter-inch steel plate, hangs from a track on the ceiling of the target range. A hidden operator moves the figure back and forth, or turns it sideways, by a system of cords and pulleys. Between the shoulders of the silhouette is a target with a bell-clapper in the center. When hit by a bullet, the clapper rings a bell attached to the back of the silhouette.

The .32 calibre revolver also is attached to the back of the figure. As the silhouette turns sideways the gun points at the policeman engaged in target practice, and is fired by pulling a cord running from a trigger mechanism to the operator.

The effect, the Association said, is that of an exchange of running gunfire between an officer and a lawbreaker. Wilmington police officials say there has been a considerable improvement in the marksmanship of their policemen through use of the mechanical "bandit."

Since the "bandit" was perfected, police departments of New York City, Wichita, Kan., and Burlingame, Calif., have asked for specifications, indicating they are going to try the training device.

300 Small Seaplane Bases Now Dot 21 States

Approximately 300 small seaplane bases are under construction or completed in 21 states, both along the coast and inland, as part of a nationwide development program inaugurated more than a year ago by the Civil Aeronautics Authority, information from the American Municipal Association showed today.

Small communities near a body of water which for economic or other reasons are unable to maintain airports are especially interested in the seaplane bases because of their low cost, the Association said. Completion of the program will make seaplane operations feasible from coast to coast and from border to border.

The facilities included in each project are floats, either single or in combination, moorings, wind cones, and other equipment for use on ramps. Cooperating with the Civil Aeronautics Authority, the National Youth Administration constructs and installs these facilities. Materials are supplied by the sponsoring agency, usually the city. The floats may be recognized by the standard system of marking--the deck is bright orange with a black triangle superimposed; the rest of the float, black.

Cost of materials for the 10 by 20 foot float made standard for the program is approximately \$150 per float. In general, the floats are made at NYA workshops, but in some instances they are prefabricated at the workshop and assembled at the site selected. When completed, the facilities become the property of the sponsoring agency.

* * *

Sales Tax Repealed In Louisiana

Louisiana will be the eighth state to abandon the sales tax as a revenue source when purchasers cease paying out tax tokens on December 31 this year as a result of recent repeal legislation, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

New York state allowed its sales tax law to expire in 1934, Vermont and New Jersey repealed such taxes in 1935, and Idaho, Kentucky, Maryland and Oregon did away with their sales taxes in 1936.

The act repealing Louisiana's tax also rescinded the authority granted New Orleans to levy a municipal sales tax. Remaining on the municipal sales tax list are six cities, of which New York City is the only large one.

* * *

Approximately 500 small and large boats are under construction or completed

as stated, both along the coast and inland, as part of a nationwide development

program transferred more than a year ago by the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

Small communities near a body of water which are capable of doing

business are unable to maintain airports are especially interested in the program.

Because of their low cost, the Association said. Completion of the program will

enable airplane operators to fly from coast to coast and from coast to coast.

The facilities included in each project are: a runway, either paved or in

grass, with a wind cone, and other equipment for use in landing. Construction

with the Civil Aeronautics Authority, the National Youth Administration, and

the State. Materials are supplied by the Federal Government, and the

city. The floats are recognized by the standard system of marking the float.

is bright orange with a black triangle superimposed; the rear of the float, black.

Cost of materials for the 10 by 20 foot float was estimated for the program

at approximately \$150 per float. In general, the floats are made at the workshop,

in some instances they are prefabricated at the workshop and assembled at the

site selected. When completed, the facilities become the property of the community.

Louisiana will be the eighth state to abandon the sales tax on a purchase

when purchasers cease paying out tax before or December 31 this year as a

of recent repeal legislation, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

Cities To Protect Jobs Of Employees Called For Military, National Defense Service

New York City, Milwaukee, Portland, Ore., San Francisco and Galesburg, Ill., are among the cities taking steps, either through enactment of ordinances or through civil service commission rulings, to protect the jobs of city employees called into military or national defense service, the American Municipal Association said today.

The New York City action was taken by the Municipal Civil Service Commission Aug. 12, while policies of the other cities were established by ordinance, or are under consideration. New York City's civil service policy is as follows:

"Every employe of the city government who is a member of the National Guard, Naval militia, Reserve corps, or federal military, naval or marine services, is entitled to absent himself while engaged in the performance of ordered duty.

"For the first 30 days of such ordered duty he will receive his city salary and for periods of over 30 days he will receive . . . the difference between his military compensation and his regular city salary.

"Vacation and sick leave accrued prior to the date of service are preserved for the employe called to active duty."

Promotion rights are preserved for persons on military duty, according to the New York City civil service policy, and examinations taken after return from duty will, if passed, place the person on the promotion list in the position he would have attained had he taken the regular test. Also, provisions are made for leaves of absence without pay for emergency service of a non-military character.

In Portland, an ordinance adopted by the city council July 10 provides that positions left for military, naval, marine, or emergency civil defense employment shall be available to employees and officers of the city upon their return from such military service.

A pending ordinance in Milwaukee provides that a city worker summoned for service in the army, navy or marine corps be granted an indefinite leave of absence; that his seniority, civil service and pension rights remain unimpaired; and that he be restored to his former position at the end of his service unless he is physically disabled. If an employe must resign from city service to accept military service, he would be reinstated when the service has ended.

Galesburg's city council on Aug. 19 resolved that if any full-time city employees are called for National Guard or compulsory military training, they will find their jobs waiting for them when they return from service--provided the city administration does not change in the meantime.

An ordinance granting 30-day leaves with pay for San Francisco's city employees engaging in voluntary military duty was withheld from final approval recently until plans could be worked out to prevent crippling of the police and fire departments.

* * *

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Galesburg's city council on Aug. 19 resolved that if any full-time city employee is called to military service or national guard service, he will retain his position and seniority and be entitled to the same position or position of equivalent status when he is recalled.

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Public welfare

Coordinate Programs Of Public Medical Care Cited In Report

A proposal that cities and other levels of government coordinate their medical services for the indigent sick to avoid duplication and delay was contained in a report made today by the American Public Welfare Association's Committee on Medical Care.

Prior to the current report the Committee in a two-year survey found that much overlapping and duplication of effort had grown up in providing tax-supported medical care. In one eastern state, for example, 12 independent state agencies were discovered administering fractions of the public medical program, five of them making payments to nongovernmental hospitals at different rates.

Though the current survey found the lack of coordination still widespread, a number of instances were found in which various public agencies had been able to integrate their medical care programs without consolidating under one governmental department. Typical measures include:

- 1 - A cooperative relationship, such as is found in the states of North Dakota and Washington, under which the welfare department or whatever agency charged with providing medical care obtains technical supervision through the department of health, paying for the service accordingly.
- 2 - Use of the state or local health officer as an adviser to the department which carries major responsibility for tax-supported medical care. This is illustrated in Anne Arundel county and Baltimore, Md.
- 3 - Organization of representatives of the governmental agencies concerned with medical care and welfare into an interdepartmental committee, for joint planning of official programs with nongovernmental agencies and the medical professions. This example is found in the federal Interdepartmental Committee to Coordinate Health and Welfare Activities, set up in 1935.
- 4 - Use of a medical officer on the staff of the department which administers medical care in a liaison capacity with other governmental departments as well as with the nongovernmental agencies and medical professions. Illustrations of this set-up occur in the states of Minnesota and New York, and in Boston, Chicago, New York City and other municipalities.

Other examples of coordination are the state programs of Arkansas, Louisiana and Maryland, and the local programs of Cleveland, Kalamazoo, Louisville, New Haven, Toledo, and Mecklenburg county (Charlotte), N.C.

The Committee, which is continuing its study of tax-supported medical care, pointed out that the expenditures of local and state governments for medical care to the indigent are definitely on the increase, with further extensions through federal aid proposed. "Unless real progress is made in coordinating existing governmental machinery for medical care administration, however," the Committee said, "additional expenditures, no matter how great, may not result in an adequate, well-rounded program for medical assistance."

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Police - International cooperation

New York Police Adopt Mobilization Plan For Civil Defense

A police mobilization plan, based on cooperation between state and local law enforcement agencies, has been placed in operation in New York state to handle civil defense problems of local communities if need should arise during the present emergency defense period.

The plan was described by Bruce Smith, of the Institute of Public Administration, New York City, in a report to the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The state was divided into eight mobilization areas by Gov. Herbert H. Lehman after several conferences with heads of state, city, village and town police, and county sheriffs. New York City is one mobilization area; the other seven are defined by the existing boundaries of state police troop districts.

Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine is chief mobilization officer in New York City, while captains of state police--one captain to each district--are mobilization officers in the seven upstate districts. It is the officers' duty to appraise and classify police man power and equipment resources in their districts and, on the specific order of the governor, make them available to local authorities.

Under the New York plan, now in full operation, the police chief of any city will be in full command of the mobilized force placed at his disposal during civil disturbances. The governor will designate temporary commanders of rural areas.

The New York plan of action, Smith said, leaves essential patterns of local administration undisturbed without sacrificing the underlying principle of unified command in an emergency. "Different conditions may require different patterns, but in no case should law enforcement by regular police trained to act under established forms of law be sacrificed."

Connecticut and New Jersey are reported considering the establishment of state emergency mobilization programs similar to the New York program.

The New York state mobilization plan was adopted, Smith said, as superior to practices during the World War period in using untrained and undisciplined volunteers to supplement the regular police agencies.

"It has been demonstrated over and over again that volunteer police may become a greater domestic menace and a more serious threat to private rights and essential civil liberties, than the threatening conditions with which they were intended to deal," Smith said.

Radio Used To Clarify Picture Of Municipal Government Services

Citizens are presented a more complete picture of municipal services and enterprise through use of the radio by at least 46 cities of 50,000 or more population, a study made by the International City Managers' Association showed today.

In their efforts to place the relationship between local government and the citizen on a more personal plane than is accomplished through periodic statistical reports, the cities are using radio programs--interviews, round table discussions, concerts, dramas and reviews. Five of the cities--New York City, Camden, N.J., St. Petersburg and Jacksonville, Fla., and Dallas, Tex., use their own municipally owned stations in broadcasting programs.

Thirty-eight of the cities present a series of radio programs, 16 having had regularly scheduled broadcasts for two or more years. The 16 cities include Chicago, Cleveland, Dayton, Los Angeles, Louisville and New York City. In eight cities the radio has been utilized only on special occasions such as campaigns for collection of delinquent taxes, fire prevention weeks, or explanations of bond issues.

Radio programs of some cities emphasize departmental problems and may have two or three different types of broadcast each month. For example, the health and safety departments of Grand Rapids, Mich., have for the last three years been on the air for weekly programs. One of Cleveland's radio series stressed the importance of citizen cooperation.

Typical of many radio programs are those presented this year by officials of Springfield, Mass. One series consists of weekly discussions by various department or bureau heads, and the other a series of monthly addresses by the mayor. Another type is the twice-weekly program of Louisville, sponsored by the city department of research, in which general local and county governmental problems are reviewed and discussed.

Responsibility for inaugurating municipal radio programs usually rests with the mayor, city manager or some other city official in cooperation with local stations. In many instances, however, local civic organizations or the station itself take the initiative. In 28 cities, participants in broadcasts are selected on the basis of their positions--such as mayor, councilman or department head, while in a few cities outside guests appear on programs. In the other 18 cities, talent for municipal programs is drawn from many sources. Dayton's recreation department organized a dramatic club to prepare a play production for each weekly broadcast. Several cities use their high school dramatic organizations.

The preferred time on the air, the study shows, is between 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Twenty-two of the cities had programs on the air during these hours, while several had noon-hour programs and a few mid-morning or mid-afternoon programs.

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1 Housing - Tax exemption

Housing Authorities Meet Opposition To Tax Exemption By Annual Payments

Objections to complete tax exemption for low-rent public housing projects have been met by a number of municipal housing authorities through annual payments which compensate, in some measure, for the cost of municipal services to the projects.

This was shown today in results of a questionnaire sent by the research department of Houston, Tex., to 68 cities having contracts with local housing authorities. Replies to the questionnaire were received from 56 cities.

Of the 56 cities, exactly one half--or 28 cities--reported they receive payments in lieu of taxes from their local housing authorities--either in the form of flat yearly fees or as a percentage of rents received by the authorities.

Yearly fees are paid on a flat-rate basis for municipal services by housing authorities in eight of the 28 cities, the fees ranging from \$447 in Austin, to \$13,000 in Philadelphia. The other cities in which flat fees are paid are Atlantic City, Columbia, S.C., Louisville and Lexington, Ky., Lowell, Mass., and Buffalo. It was pointed out that the size of the fee is based partly on the size of the housing project and the number of housing units in each project.

Eleven of the 20 cities which receive money from their housing authorities on a percentage basis get 3 per cent of rents collected as their share. These cities are Gary, Ind., Charleston, S.C., Omaha, Scranton, Memphis, Augusta, Ga., and Asbury Park, Jersey City, Trenton, Elizabeth and Newark, N.J.

Percentage payments in the nine other cities range from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in Covington, Ky., and Cincinnati, to 5 per cent in Chattanooga, Chicago and Schenectady. Local housing authorities in the other four cities and the percentages they pay are: Lawrence and Boston, Mass., $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent; Knoxville, 3 to 4 per cent; and Baltimore, $3\frac{9}{10}$ per cent.

The research department said that if Houston were to receive 5 per cent of the rentals from the Houston Housing Authority, the sum would equal approximately the amount the city stands to lose through tax exemptions on the projects. Under present arrangements, Houston receives neither a flat fee nor a percentage of rentals for municipal services to the projects.

Many of the cities answering the questionnaire said thousands of dollars owed them in delinquent taxes had been paid as a result of transactions giving housing authorities title to properties. Memphis obtained \$63,251 in back taxes which had to be paid before the property could be sold; Asbury Park received \$20,000; Knoxville, \$13,419; Schenectady, \$10,700; and Omaha, \$5,000.

* * *

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Eleven of the 28 cities which receive money from their housing authorities

on a percentage basis get 8 per cent of rents collected as their share. These cities

are, Ind., Charleston, N.C., Omaha, St. Louis, St. Paul, and Albany

Percentage payments in the nine other cities range from 2 1/2 per cent in

St. Louis, Ky., and Cincinnati, to 5 per cent in Chattanooga, Chicago and San Francisco.

and Boston, Mass., 3 1/4 per cent; Louisville, 3 to 4 per cent; and Baltimore,

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Traffic Counters Installed For Washington Streets

Public-Su

To aid in determining the volume of traffic on principal streets, Washington, D.C., has installed 21 automatic traffic counters designed by the U.S. Public Roads Administration, the American Public Works Association said today.

The counter consists of a contact detector in the roadway and a recording mechanism. The mechanism is operated by a clock, and affords an hourly count of passing vehicles. Thirteen of the counters are fixed, to obtain permanent, long-term records, while eight are movable, to give geographical coverage.

The District has also installed a counting device operated by a photo-electric cell on a two-lane highway in an outlying section. While suitable for such a location, this type of counter could not provide an accurate record on multi-lane highways where two or more streams of traffic pass the same point at the same time, the Association said.

* * *

Louisiana Creates State Police Investigation Bureau

Pub. - 11

Nine young graduate attorneys will compose a new bureau of investigation set up by the Louisiana state police on the pattern of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the International Association of Chiefs of Police reported today.

The men were selected by law deans from the 1940 graduating classes of Tulane, Loyola and Louisiana State university law schools. Besides taking care of the state police department's legal inquiries, the bureau personnel will make confidential investigations and check on qualifications of applicants to the police force.

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JOINT REFERENCE

State Welfare Departments To Aid In Handling Child Refugees

State welfare departments will play a role in helping the United States Committee for the Care of European Children carry out its child refugee program, which may bring as many as 30,000 children into American homes for the duration of the war, the American Public Welfare Association said today.

The United States Children's Bureau has asked the state welfare departments to cooperate with the Committee, which is a private agency, and with various federal agencies now planning for care of the refugees, who have begun to arrive from England. The specific responsibilities delegated to the welfare departments are:

1. To recommend to the Children's Bureau those private child-care agencies which should be designated to represent the United States Committee for the Care of European Children in placing and supervising the children coming into the states.
2. To assist the United States Committee in seeing that the child placement program is carried out in compliance with state child welfare laws and administrative rulings, and in such a way as to prevent the children from becoming deportable under federal law as "public charges."

The National Council of State Public Assistance and Welfare Administrators, a section of the Association, has set up a "children's committee" to clear information on plans for state participation. Attorneys-general of the various states are now being canvassed for opinions relating to the acceptance of refugee children under their state laws. Information is sought on such questions as: Are refugee children eligible to attend the public schools without tuition charge? What are bonding requirements for foster-parents? How much legal responsibility do the temporary guardians assume?

To avoid possibility that the refugee children might be considered public charges, only private funds and private child-care agencies are being used in the program, the Association pointed out. In localities where no authorized private agency is available, however, public agencies may be requested to act as agents for the U.S. Committee to supervise the children in their American foster-homes. Existing facilities will be made use of in providing reception care for the children awaiting placement, instead of establishing new institutional arrangements, according to the Association.

The state welfare departments may also maintain records for children entering the states, as a cross-check for the master records kept by the Children's Bureau in the offices of the U.S. Committee. Through a mutual exchange of information, the central index then would not only file reports from the local agencies on changes in each child's situation but would report back to local and state agencies on any changes in the family situation in Europe.

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Unique Bureau Of Investigation Traces Lost State Checks In Pennsylvania

A unique bureau of investigation which traces state checks lost through theft, forgery, mutilation, wrong address, or invalidation by death, has been operating successfully in the Pennsylvania state treasury department, the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers said today.

Establishment of the bureau became necessary early in 1939 when the Pennsylvania state treasury department took over disbursement of public assistance checks, the Association said. The checks--for direct relief and special grants for old age assistance, aid to dependent children, and aid to the blind--account for nearly 58,000 of the 87,500 state checks put out daily by the department.

Since about 130 of these checks go astray every business day, it became necessary to set up a system for investigating the cases, insuring fair disposition of claims and closing department accounts.

An analysis of the bureau of investigation's work for the last year showed that about 60 per cent of all general assistance checks reported for investigation were stolen and forged; 35 per cent were reported missing by over-eager recipients but later received in proper order; and checks accidentally destroyed--tossed into the waste paper basket, left in pockets when clothing went to the laundry, or stolen but never presented for payment--accounted for the remaining five per cent.

Irregularities concerning checks issued for special assistance, such as old age assistance, aid to dependent children and aid to the blind, showed a distinctly different pattern. In this category forgeries ran to only 20 or 25 per cent, while cases in which checks were reported lost and later recovered accounted for about 70 per cent of all investigations. Here too, mutilations, complete disappearance, etc., accounted for the other five per cent.

During 1939 the bureau investigated 11,500 such cases--5,000 representing direct relief grants made on a weekly basis, and the other 6,500 representing special assistance grants made at monthly intervals. Settlement of the cases required investigation of nearly 32,500 individual checks with a face value of \$500,000. In addition, another 500 checks representing about \$20,000 were investigated as a favor to other branches of the state government.

Whether checks are lost or found, however, Pennsylvania never suffers a loss, since restitution must be made by the bank or individual cashing the checks, the Association said.

Similar investigations of missing unemployment compensation checks are made by a special section of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Unemployment Compensation in the state treasury, according to the Association.

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Since about 130 of these checks go astray every business day, it became necessary to set up a system for investigating the cases, insuring fair disposition of claims and closing department accounts.

An analysis of the bureau of investigation's work for the last year showed that about 60 per cent of all general assistance checks reported for investigation were stolen and forged; 35 per cent were reported missing by over-eager recipients but later received in proper order; and checks accidentally destroyed--tossed into the waste paper basket, left in pockets when clothing went to the laundry, or stolen but never presented for payment--accounted for the remaining five per cent.

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\$8,000 of the \$7,500 state checks but out daily by the department.
Since about 130 of these checks go away every business day, it became
necessary to set up a system for maintaining the books and records of
claims and closing department accounts.
An analysis of the Bureau of Investigation's work for the last year showed
that about 15 per cent of all checks were reported missing or destroyed
and stolen and forged; 35 per cent were reported missing by over-eager recipients but
later received in proper order; and checks accidentally destroyed--lost into the
fire, torn, etc., 15 per cent were reported missing in the Bureau, 15 per cent
were presented for payment--accounted for the remaining five per cent.
Irregularities concerning checks issued for special assistance, such as old
age assistance, aid to dependent children, and aid to the blind, were
investigated. In this category the Bureau found that about 10 per cent of the
checks in which checks were reported lost and later recovered accounted for about 10 per
cent of all checks. The Bureau also found that about 15 per cent of the
checks were for the other five per cent.

600 Uniform Acts Passed By States

Approximately 600 acts designed to reduce conflicts in legislation are on the statute books of the 48 states as a result of half a century of activity by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, a survey showed today.

The work of the Conference, which is an official body created by state statutes, is to consider legislation that would profit the states by uniform adoption. The Conference drafts model bills, checks them with state and national bar associations, and finally attempts to secure their introduction into state legislatures.

The uniform laws relate to about 50 subjects. Every law has been adopted by at least one state, while some of the laws have been enacted by 30 or more states. Many of the laws are for the purpose of facilitating business and trade, in current times frequently hampered by statutory differences from one state to another. Others pertain to social questions.

The outstanding adoption has been the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Act, now in force in all states. This law, governing commercial relationships with respect to promissory notes and checks, also has been adopted in some of the South American countries, and has served as a model for European legislation.

Other uniform laws that have been widely adopted include the warehouse receipts act, which makes warehouse receipts generally acceptable in business transactions, by 45 states; the sales act, which concerns the transfer of title to personal property, by 32 states; the Narcotic Drug Act, regulating the legitimate use of drugs, in 38 states; and the Veterans' Guardianship Act, in 33 states. A number of states have accepted uniform laws pertaining to desertion and nonsupport, illegitimacy, marriage evasion and the execution of wills.

Fifty-three model acts are currently being recommended to state legislatures, 43 of which meet in regular session in 1941.

The Conference has just announced a new cooperative relationship with the Council of State Governments, to further uniformity of state legislation. The Council, as a joint governmental agency concerned with reducing interstate frictions, will aid in the preparation and distribution of the uniform bills.

International City Managers Association

Illinois Communities Pool Services And Reduce Costs

Pooling their resources for particular municipal functions, Winnetka, Ill., and its neighbors in suburban Chicago are saving money and putting out a better brand of service than would otherwise be possible, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The cooperative plan, which at present includes such services as fire protection, refuse disposal, milk inspection, purchasing and radio, has been effected by contract, informal agreement, the joint use of personnel, or the establishment of special agencies. From two to seven of the suburbs are included in the various arrangements.

Winnetka, for example, handles fire protection for Kenilworth on a contract, responding to all fire calls received from this neighbor town with its full fire-fighting force. Kenilworth pays \$1,800 a year as a fixed charge for the service, plus \$25 a call, and assumes all financial liability for injury and property damage resulting from accidents to men or equipment in answering fire calls. The contract provides that, in case of coincident calls from Winnetka and Kenilworth, the Winnetka call will receive preference, but Wilmette--another neighbor--will respond to the Kenilworth alarm.

Under another contract, Winnetka uses the incinerator built and operated by Glencoe. A charge of \$2.75 per ton of refuse incinerated is billed monthly to Winnetka; at the end of the year adjustment is made to reconcile the amount remitted with the actual cost of operating the incinerator. Last year the adjustment brought the charge to \$3.11 a ton, which took care of Winnetka's share of interest and depreciation on the plant, direct expense, and overhead. Approximately 60 per cent of the refuse incinerated came from Winnetka.

Most important of the informal arrangements, according to the report, is the coordinated buying agreement between Winnetka and other public and semi-public bodies in the vicinity. For example: Winnetka buys coal for the board of education and the Glencoe incinerator, along with the supply for its own electric plant. Evanston, Glencoe, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Kenilworth, Wilmette and Winnetka jointly buy the chemicals for their water filtration plants. One year's net savings from a joint purchase of liquid chlorine totaled more than \$500.

An example of the hiring of joint personnel is the Winnetka public health officer, who is in charge of the township, the village of Kenilworth and the Winnetka and Kenilworth schools. Under his supervision, also, is a cooperative milk inspection program which includes six of the suburban villages. This program won high rating in the nation last year.

Police radio is coordinated by having Glencoe, Highland Park, Kenilworth and Winnetka operate their radio transmitters on the same frequency. This makes intercommunication possible not only through the central transmitting station but also among the individual squad cars equipped with two-way radio.

Accidents - Police

Police Give Simple Rules For Civilian Handling Of Suspected Bombs

Civilians may save lives and assist police officials in the handling of bombs, suspected bombs and explosives, by following one simple rule, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The rule: Don't touch the suspected package or object, but notify officials trained to handle such cases.

This advice has been offered both civilians and police officers by police departments of several cities in efforts to avert tragedies similar to the recent bomb explosion at the New York World's Fair which killed two detectives and wounded four other members of the New York City police department.

Police departments which have made recent studies on the handling of suspected bombs include those of New York City, Cleveland, Indianapolis and Chicago, and the New York state police department. The Cleveland police bureau of scientific investigation outlines the following precautionary measures to be followed by both civilians and police in handling suspicious packages or objects:

1--Never attempt to remove any suspected package from the position in which it is originally discovered.

2--Never throw water upon or immerse in water any suspected explosive or incendiary machine, as it may be the type that will explode by improper handling or immersion in water.

3--Never attempt to open suspicious packages by the intended method.

Police officers are advised by the recent studies on the handling of suspected explosives to clear the scene as quietly and quickly as possible of spectators and other persons. If the package is in a building, Indianapolis police are advised to order civilians to leave through the usual exits if it does not require passing close to the suspected bomb; otherwise, emergency exits should be used.

The Indianapolis department, it was pointed out, regularly uses a portable X-ray for examining suspected packages.

"Unfortunately, there is no known safe method for the handling of infernal machines," the Association said, "but caution, together with good judgment, will assist in averting incidents similar to the New York tragedy."

Training - Police

South Gate, Calif., Trains Police Recruits At No Cost To Government

By giving police recruits "observational training" while they work at their regular jobs in private enterprise, South Gate, Calif., pop. 30,000, has solved a common problem of small cities which maintain civil service for their police employees but cannot afford a training school for them.

Under the South Gate plan, reported by the American Municipal Association today, the first 10 men from the police examination eligibility lists are made "trainees." Keeping their day-time jobs, which are likely to be in industrial plants, they train for police service mainly by riding one night a week as observers in police radio patrol cars and by taking some class instruction. They are not deputized, but they have gun permits. By the time openings occur for them on the police force, the training experience has familiarized the recruits with such details as police call boxes, the municipal boundaries, the organization of the police department, and forms used in making reports.

Half the 18 men now comprising the South Gate police department have been added through this unusual type of training program, which was started four years ago, the Association said.

* * *

Medical service - Hospitalization

Wisconsin City Helps Pay Employees' Hospital Insurance

Reported as the first city to contribute municipal funds to a group hospitalization plan for employees, Two Rivers, Wis., through recent council action, voted to pay 50 cents a month of a \$1.12 premium charge for this insurance, the International City Managers' Association said today.

Under the plan the employee is entitled to 31 days in the city hospital, plus a provision for X-rays, anesthetics and surgical fees. For an added fee, employees can cover other members of their families.

Two Rivers also allows employees seven days' sick leave a year with full pay.

* * *

at the State Government

By giving police recruits "observational training" while they work at their

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problem of small cities which maintain civil service for their police employees

and which are unable to pay the high salaries

which are paid to police officers in large cities.

Today, the first 10 men from the police examination eligibility class are made

"trainees." Keeping their day-time jobs, which are likely to be in technical fields,

they train for police service mainly by night and about a week as observers in police

radio patrol cars and by taking some class instruction. They are not decorated, but

they have gun permits. By the time operations occur for them as the police force, the

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Now, the municipal board, the representative of the police department and town

are in making reports.

Half the 10 men now completing the South Gate police department have been

employed by the city for a number of years and are now being trained for police work.

and the remaining nine

are for training, technical knowledge

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Marriage - Legislation

Couples Can't Marry In Haste In 30 States With Restrictive Laws

Young couples anxious to marry quickly, perhaps by elopement, will find themselves checked temporarily in at least 30 states by laws requiring them to wait after they apply for a license or announce their intention to marry, or to take pre-marital health tests, or both. W

Most of the laws requiring waiting periods are directed against the so-called "Gretna Green" marriages so widely publicized in recent years, and many have become effective within the last year or two, according to the Council of State Governments. Waiting period laws became effective in five states in 1939.

Twenty-three of the 30 states require either advance notice of intention to marry before a license will be issued, or a waiting period between issuance of the license and the wedding. Eighteen of the 30 have pre-marital health test laws, including 11 of the states with statutory waiting periods.

Waiting periods range from six days between notice of intention to marry and issuance of the license in Rhode Island, to 24 hours between issuance of the license and the wedding in Delaware. The most common waiting periods, however, are for five or three days.

States with five-day waiting period---Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Ohio, Mississippi, Vermont and Wisconsin.

States with three-day period---California, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Washington and West Virginia.

One state---Maryland---has a two-day waiting period, while several states subject non-residents to additional waiting.

Although pre-marital health test laws were enacted by 18 states primarily as health measures, the Council said they serve a purpose in hindering hasty weddings, especially in seven states which have no additional waiting period restrictions.

Pre-marital test laws became effective in 1940 in Indiana, Pennsylvania and Virginia; in 1939 in California, Colorado, North Carolina, North and South Dakota, and West Virginia. Laws already enacted will become effective in 1941 in Tennessee, which has a three-day waiting period, and Kentucky. Other states with pre-marital test laws are Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

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Tax Revenue Sources Show Big Change Over 40-Year Period

Taxation

Forty-two per cent of the revenues of all governmental units in 1939 were collected from taxes completely absent in the tax system of 40 years ago, an analysis by the Federation of Tax Administrators showed today. Those taxes were on income, payrolls, motor fuel, motor vehicles, and gifts and inheritances.

Compared with today's revenue structure, the tax system of the early 1900's was a relatively simple affair, according to the analysis. The property tax accounted for a little more than half the total revenues of that day, and met the major part of state and local government needs. Today, the property tax makes up about a third--in 1939, 33.2 per cent--of the total revenue.

Sales and occupational taxes have contributed about the same proportion of revenue--11 per cent--throughout the 40-year period, but their contribution in recent years has been due to the enactment of such new levies as the sales tax and miscellaneous federal excises. Customs duties have dropped from second to last place among the major revenue sources.

The influence of the automobile on government finance is shown by the position which the "road" levies occupy for recent years. In 1939, motor vehicle and motor fuel collections accounted for 10 per cent of all tax revenues.

The picture shown by the Federation analysis follows:

Type of Tax	Percentage of Total Tax Revenues				
	1902	1912	1922	1932	1939
Property	51.1	59.8	44.9	57.0	33.2
Sales and Occupational	11.3	8.1	11.1	7.7	11.2
Motor Fuel	*	*	0.2	6.2	7.1
Liquor	14.0	13.3	0.6	*	5.8
Tobacco	3.8	3.2	3.6	4.8	4.5
Death and Gift	*	*	2.8	2.4	3.5
Motor Vehicle	*	*	2.0	3.6	2.7
Customs	18.4	13.8	4.8	4.0	2.2
Payroll	*	*	*	*	10.8
Income	*	1.3	28.6	14.1	17.6
Miscellaneous	1.4	0.5	1.4	0.2	1.4

*Tax not levied.

Data for the analysis were obtained from the annual reports of the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and from the decennial publications of the Census Bureau on state and local finance.

Training - Assessors

Assessment method

Few State Statutes Specify Training, Experience For Assessors, Survey Shows

To become a property assessor in almost any of the states, the chief statutory requirements are citizenship, a minimum age of 21, residence, literacy, sanity and freedom from conviction for a felony, a survey by the National Association of Assessing Officers showed today. These are the usual legal qualifications of a voter, as well as for holding almost any municipal office, the Association pointed out.

Additional qualifications for the office of assessor, where they exist, usually involve additional residence and property ownership requirements, the Association found. For example, assessors of Indiana counties, certain Kansas counties, and some Kentucky cities must be residents of four years' standing. Assessors of most cities in Pennsylvania, and the assessors of San Francisco and St. Louis must have been in residence for five years, while members of the board of property assessment in Alleghany county, Pa., are required to show 10 years' residence. County assessors in Georgia, Indiana, and Kent county, Del., must be real property owners, and assessors of most Pennsylvania cities must own at least \$500 worth of real estate

Few places, on the other hand, specify education or experience qualifications for assessors, the survey showed. Kentucky county tax commissioners, who are elected, must pass an examination prepared by the state department of revenue before filing as candidates. Among the few local governments requiring experience is Syracuse, N.Y., which specifies that the head of the assessment department must be a licensed engineer or architect, or must have a certain number of years of practical experience in one of these professions, or in appraising or assessing. The Alleghany county board members must show at least five years' experience in certain specified work, including real estate brokerage, appraising or assessing, security transactions, engineering and law.

Only 360 of the 29,000 primary and overlapping assessment districts have formal merit systems for employes in assessment departments, and only about a dozen of these include the assessor, or department head, in the classified civil service, the survey showed.

The Association's Committee on Assessment Organization and Personnel, making the survey, recommended that requirements of residence and property ownership be abolished, and that standards of experience and training be set up.

The Committee recommended that some administrative agency--the state tax department or a state or local personnel agency--be given the responsibility of determining the fitness of assessor candidates. Candidates meeting such minimum qualifications for eligibility as a high school education or certain experience might be subjected to written or oral tests set by this agency. The success of such a program would depend, the Committee pointed out, "upon its flexibility and a sensible adaptation of testing methods to local conditions."

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Study Suggests Cities Teach Refuse Collectors How To Handle Containers

Although public works officials have given the matter little attention, there is a right and wrong way for their refuse collection employes to lift and "tote" a refuse container, according to a study issued by the American Public Works Association today. And the matter is important in terms of efficiency and protection of the employe's health, the study said.

"Some administrators contend that if a refuse collector is worth keeping, he will soon learn by himself the best and easiest ways to manipulate the containers," the study said. "In the main this is probably true, but it is also true that some valuable employes have been lost to the collection services because they were not given adequate instruction at the start. Either they find the work too strenuous or they strain themselves seriously through overexertion in trying to make a good impression the first few days on the job."

Resultant injuries, also, often cost cities sizeable amounts in workmen's compensation.

Most inexperienced refuse collectors make a mistake in bending over at the waist to lift a can from the ground, the study found. The proper method is to stoop by bending the knees, keep the back as vertical as possible, and rise with the load by straightening the knees.

The study suggests that individual cities would find it profitable to determine through trials by experienced employes the one best method of lifting and carrying the particular type of refuse container used, so that the least time is lost and the least effort and strain are required. Differences in sizes and shapes of refuse cans, the weight of the refuse, and the hilliness or flatness of the ground are among factors that make it necessary for cities to conduct their own studies of the problem, the Association said.

In its survey of various methods of transporting refuse from householders' backyards to collection trucks, the Association found that collectors in some parts of the country prefer to lift the containers to their shoulders or heads, while elsewhere they are carried on the hip. Sometimes they are carried by straps or just off the ground in a trailing position.

The Association's current study is part of a complete survey which will cover all aspects of refuse collection and disposal methods in use by American cities, with recommendations for their improvement.

Fire Hose Purchased To Specifications By Many Cities, Survey Shows

Two recommendations for the purchase of fire hose were drawn by the research department of Houston, Tex., from its recent survey on purchasing practices of 30 American cities, the American Municipal Association reported today. The recommendations are:

1. Fire hose should not be purchased by brand.
2. Fire hose should be purchased on the lowest bid after tests have shown the hose meets required specifications.

Of the 30 cities covered by the study, all but four buy their fire hose according to specifications, and the policy of 15 of the cities is to purchase on the lowest bid based on specifications, according to the survey. In this group of cities, fire hose prices range from 72 cents to 47 cents a foot for 2½ inch hose.

Eleven cities, including Houston, do not purchase according to the low bid on specifications if the question of quality arises, according to the survey. The lowest price paid in this group was 90 cents a foot by Houston and Columbus, O. Other cities in the group pay \$1 or more a foot for their hose.

In buying fire hose, 16 of the 30 cities use their own specifications for bidding purposes, 10 use underwriters' specifications, and two use federal government specifications.

Of the two cities not purchasing hose by specification, Syracuse paid \$1.20 a foot on its most recent purchase, and Minneapolis 49 cents. It should be pointed out, however, that Minneapolis accepted the lowest bid, and that the Syracuse purchase was made "on an emergency order," according to the survey.

Twelve of the 30 cities bought fire hose below the 60-cent level, five made their purchases in the 60-to 90-cent interval, while 13 cities bought hose costing 90 cents or more per foot.

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Janitor

Long Beach Trains Janitor-Applicants Before Examinations

A short course for candidates for municipal janitor and porter jobs, giving them a chance to brush up for a municipal civil service examination and at the same time pre-training them for their special tasks, was successfully tried recently in Long Beach, Calif., the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada reported today.

Approximately 60 persons took the 22-week part-time course, which was offered by the Long Beach Civil Service Commission through the city's adult education department. Candidates studied tools and materials used by janitors, types of floor and furniture waxes and methods of application, cleaning of fixtures, removal of stains, etc.

After the course was over, performance tests were given in which applicants demonstrated their ability to sweep, dust, wax floors, clean fixtures and mop. Civil service examiners followed the various steps, each of which had to be carried through by the candidates within a specified time.

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Denver Adopts Municipal Tobacco Tax

Denver, Colo., has adopted a municipal tobacco tax which includes a one-cent-a-package tax on cigarettes, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today. Tobacco priced five cents or less goes tax-free. Amounts between six and 15 cents are taxed one cent, and over 15 cents, two cents.

An unusual feature of the ordinance permits retailers to sell a full carton of cigarettes with tax stamps affixed to the carton itself, rather than to the individual packages.

Nine cities levy municipal taxes on tobacco. Besides Denver, they are: Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo., and Pensacola, Panama City, Chipley, Marianna and De Funiak Springs, Fla., all of which levy taxes on cigarettes only; and Birmingham, Ala., which taxes cigars, cigarettes and tobacco. Until July 1, New York City also had a cigarette tax.

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Massachusetts City Drops Relief Labor On Regular City Services

After two years' experience with the use of municipal relief labor on regular services of the public works and parks departments, Pittsfield, Mass., has discontinued the practice because it proved too costly in terms of money and morale, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

In 1938 and 1939 the Pittsfield park commission and public works department employed more than \$60,000 of work relief labor annually on such jobs as maintaining highways. Under these circumstances, the relief recipients were practically frozen to the municipal welfare rolls as far as city jobs were concerned, as opportunities for permanent employment at this work were in effect withdrawn.

Because of the divided responsibility between the welfare department, which paid the men, and the public works department, which supervised them, control of the work was difficult or impossible. Department heads estimated that it took at least two work relief laborers to do work equivalent to that of one regular employe, making the 40-cent an hour relief wage rate a fictitious saving over the 60 cents paid regular employes.

The city council decided to remedy this situation, and the 1940 budgets of the public works and parks departments included appropriations sufficient to employ men for normal maintenance work. A large number of those who had been doing the work while on relief were hired.

Despite the increased personnel costs per hour, the total wage cost was reduced as a result of better morale and improved administrative control. Departmental officials report three times as much work accomplished under the new system as in the same period last year. Furthermore, the individuals now hired at regular wages in most cases have become entirely independent of any public assistance, and have a greatly improved outlook as regular city employes.

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Program For Long-Range Airport Development Given State Plan Bodies

Coordination of municipal airport planning throughout the country so that port facilities may serve present as well as future needs is the object of an advisory plan drawn up by the Civil Aeronautics Authority as an aid to states and cities, the American Municipal Association said today.

The program, still on its way to completion, contemplates a continuing increase in private flying, mail service and commercial flights, as well as greater airport facilities for national defense. These factors make fitting together of facilities on a country-wide pattern an important problem, the Association pointed out.

In addition to advising on the placement of new airports, the proposed development programs, made with the aid of state planning agencies in many cases, also take into consideration the improvement and enlargement of existing airports.

To date, plans have been finished for the first three of the seven regions into which the United States is divided for purposes of administering the civil aeronautics act. The plans are now being turned back to state planning commissions and other public planning bodies for submission and suggestion to localities.

Included in Region I are the states of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and the District of Columbia. In Region II are North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Region III is made up of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota.

The Wisconsin State Planning Board has already adopted an airport development program closely approaching the Authority's proposed plan for the state.

The federal aeronautics agency is making no attempt to solve the airport problems of metropolitan areas, the Association said. They will be left to city planning bodies to work out in coordination with zoning regulations, building and land use restrictions, and highway and street development.

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Many City Zoning Laws Prescribe Off-Street Parking Facilities

Off-street parking space for every new apartment house, hotel, store and theater--special causes of parking congestion--is being required by more and more city zoning ordinances, information from the American Society of Planning Officials showed today. Small cities as well as large ones are adopting this requirement, 35 "samples" collected by the Society show.

Among cities which specify that every new multiple-residence must have a car-parking space are Bronxville, Croton-on-Hudson and Rochester, N.Y.; Bound Brook, Northvale, Hillsdale and Nutley, N.J.; Evanston, Flossmoor and Glencoe, Ill.; and Los Angeles and Santa Monica, Calif.

Typical of the provisions applying to multiple-dwelling districts is the Evanston ordinance, which says that every such dwelling newly erected shall provide garage or parking space within the building or on the lot or adjoining property sufficient to accommodate at least one motor vehicle for every two living units. Several of the ordinances, including those of Los Angeles and Santa Monica, require parking space for every individual dwelling unit.

Parking provisions are required for hotels in Southampton, N.Y., and South Plainfield, N.J. Southampton's zoning ordinance requires the hotel to provide 300 square feet of private parking space on the same lot as the hotel or within 200 feet for each sleeping room. South Plainfield makes the requirement 200 square feet.

The theater parking provisions in most of the zoning ordinances specify accessible parking space near the theater big enough to accommodate at least one car for every five to ten seats. Evanston and Riverside, Ill., Mequon, Wis., and San Marino, Calif., are among cities with such provisions.

The restaurant parking area is a less usual requisite, according to the Society, which cites an ordinance of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., requiring restaurants in certain residence zones to supply accommodation for one car for every four seats in the dining room.

Du Page and Lake counties, Ill., and Hillsdale, N.J., have enacted ordinances requiring stores to provide parking space.

Mequon, Wis., is unusual in requiring roadside stands to provide parking facilities for not less than six vehicles on or adjacent to their premises.

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Parking provisions are required for hotels in Evanston, Ill., and Santa Monica, Calif. Evanston's ordinance requires the hotel to provide 100 spaces for private parking space on the same lot as the hotel or within 400 feet for each sleeping room. Santa Monica requires the hotel to provide 100 spaces for

The theater parking provisions in part of the Evanston ordinance specify that parking space near the theater building should be reserved at least one car for every five to ten seats. Evanston and Evanston, Ill., Madison, Wis., and San Francisco, Calif., are among cities with such provisions.

The restaurant parking area is a local ordinance, according to the

San Francisco ordinance, which requires the restaurant to provide parking space for 100 cars.

Cincinnati Bicycle Safety Clubs Reduce Accident Hazard

Bicycle safety clubs established throughout the city by the Cincinnati police department have helped teach juvenile riders safe road manners as well as the principles of traffic regulation, the International City Managers' Association reported today.

Since the program was undertaken early in 1939, 25 police officers, working with the special patrolman in charge, have organized 235 safety clubs. Each club is affiliated with a school, a scout troop, or a commercial establishment using bicycle messengers.

To be eligible for membership, a boy or girl, either bicycle rider or owner, must sign a pledge covering nine cardinal safety rules. A group thus formed chooses its own officers and may organize its own bicycle traffic court, with a judge and prosecutor, to enforce safety rules. The police carefully inspect each member's "bike" and, if it is found satisfactory, issue a seal to be displayed on the bicycle. The member is also given a membership button and an identification card listing the club rules.

Eighty-four per cent of Cincinnati's juvenile bicycle riders are members of the police-sponsored bicycle safety clubs at the present time. Riding manners of the cyclists have noticeably improved since the clubs were started, according to the report. Of 1,640 infractions of bicycle traffic regulations recorded by the city police during 1939, over 80 per cent were committed by riders who were not members of the clubs. This year, more than 90 per cent have been committed by non-club members.

A moving picture sound film entitled "Bicycle Safety in Cincinnati," depicting the activities of the clubs, was recently produced by the city, to be used in further promotion of the bicycle club plan.

As an additional feature of the bicycle safety program, a recent amendment to the city bicycle ordinance permits minors of 14 years of age or under to ride on sidewalks where buildings do not abut directly on the walk. Riders are required to dismount when 25 feet from a pedestrian.

Municipal Refuse Collection Methods Vary Even In First Step, Survey Shows

There is more than one way to get garbage and old tin cans from the back porch to the collection truck, and the way that the city refuse department chooses has an important effect on costs and public convenience, a survey by the American Public Works Association showed today.

Which one of the half a dozen different methods each city uses generally depends on the kind of service demanded by the public, the density of population and the physical lay-out of the town, and even on local tradition, the Association said, after checking on practices in almost 200 cities.

The fastest and cheapest method, the survey found, is to let the householder set the container on the curb, and to empty it directly into the truck. Cities following this practice usually enforce ordinances specifying the time when refuse containers must be set out for collection, and in many cases the collecting trucks can cover one and one-half to two miles an hour. Under this system the householders must do part of the work, and at least one day a week the streets are littered for several hours with refuse cans.

If more service is demanded, the collectors may carry the refuse to the collecting vehicles. This method is slow, since the motor equipment is idle while collectors go into each yard.

The "set-out and set-back" method, developed in some cities to combine the advantages of curb and alley collections with those of back-door collection, makes it possible to load the trucks rapidly. Under this plan a special crew working half an hour or so ahead of the collecting truck carries the cans from the premises to the curbs or alleys and returns them to their locations a short time after they are emptied. This method costs an estimated 25 to 50 per cent more than regular curb collection, according to the survey.

The city may vary this method by exchanging an empty receptacle for the full one. To do this, it is virtually necessary for the municipal government to own all receptacles. This method is the most costly of all, the survey said, since the amount of service given is greater and the expense of providing and cleaning containers is borne by the collection agency.

Another system in use--collecting refuse material from a fixed storage spot or vault by shoveling it into the collection truck--is not considered good by refuse collection officials. They find it especially bad practice, the survey said, when refuse contains garbage, which may be scattered about and left to putrefy.

The survey is part of a general study of refuse collection and disposal methods by cities which will be issued later this year.

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The "set-out and pick-up" method, developed in some cities to combine the
features of curb and alley collection with those of back-door collection, makes it
possible for the collector to pick up the refuse from the back door of the house
or on an alley of the collecting truck carries the cans from the premises to the
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Aerial Pictures Replace Field Survey In Planning Detroit Highway

Aerial photographs are replacing the usual field surveys in planning a modern express highway now under design for the city of Detroit, the American Public Works Association reported today. When finished, the photographs, which are taken from a height of 3,000 feet, will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 40 feet to the inch. It will measure 154 feet and will show 14 miles of Grand River Avenue, parallel to which the proposed highway will run.

The Michigan state highway department, in charge of the work, says that the photographs, which were taken in a few days' time at a cost of \$800, are an efficient and accurate substitute for work that would cost \$8,000 under the usual field surveying methods.

The Michigan highway office first used aerial pictures in 1924 to guide in planning new roads, but the present project is the first one in which they replace field surveys entirely, according to the Association.

* * *

Electric Magnets Clean Missouri Highways

A "road magnet" on wheels, designed to rid the state highways of nails, bolts and other objects that cause tire blow-outs and automobile accidents, is Missouri's latest gift to the motorist, the American Public Works Association reported today.

The device carries three powerful electric magnets, each of which will cause a three-pound object to leap as far as four inches. They are suspended from the chassis of a two-ton truck, and a generator, mounted on the chassis and driven by a separate engine, supplies the current. The machine was designed and built by the Missouri state highway department, at a cost of \$4,000.

The magnets are most efficient when adjusted to four inches above the pavement surface, with the truck traveling at 10 or 12 miles an hour, according to the highway department. On an average, they pick up four and one-half pounds of iron objects per mile of travel.

* * *

Aerial photographs are required for the canal field survey in planning a waterway and highway now under design for the city of Detroit, and American Public Works Association reported today. When finished, the photographs, which are taken from a height of 5,000 feet, will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile. The photographs will be taken from a height of 5,000 feet, and will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile. The photographs will be taken from a height of 5,000 feet, and will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile.

The Michigan state highway department is in charge of the work, and the photographs, which were taken in a few days' time at a cost of \$800, are an efficient aid in planning the highway. The photographs will be taken from a height of 5,000 feet, and will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile. The photographs will be taken from a height of 5,000 feet, and will be made into a mosaic strip map on a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile.

A "road magnet" or wheel, designed to rid the state highways of potholes, holes and other defects that cause the blow-outs and automobile accidents, is being used. The device carries three powerful electric magnets, each of which will cause a pothole or hole to be filled with iron filings. The machine was designed and built by the Michigan State Highway Department. The machine was designed and built by the Michigan State Highway Department. The machine was designed and built by the Michigan State Highway Department.

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Seven States Withhold Vote From Citizens Absent On Military Service

National Guardsmen or other citizens who may be in military service by November will be unable to vote in six states under present laws if they are outside the state on election day, according to an analysis by the Council of State Governments of information from the State Law Index of the Library of Congress. In addition, Texans who are in the army, navy or marines--but not the National Guard and reserves--are completely disfranchised by their state.

The six states which withhold the right to vote from their legal residents in service, chiefly because they lack absentee voting provisions, are: Kentucky, Mississippi, New Mexico, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana. In the first four states soldiers and sailors may vote if they can get home on election day. In Florida they can vote during the period between 15 and three days before election day if they can get home, and in Louisiana they have the privilege of voting from 10 to two days ahead. New Mexico has made constitutional provision for soldier-voting, but the legislature has not acted to make it effective.

Soldiers are allowed to vote under ordinary absentee-voting provisions in the following states: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. New Hampshire permits absentee voting for presidential electors only. Oklahoma's absent soldier-voters will have to use proxies to cast their ballots.

The states which make specific provisions for those in military service to vote by mail are Maryland, Missouri and Nebraska. New Jersey makes such a provision applicable "in time of war," and provides also for the special collection of the soldier vote as the legislature shall direct. New York and Ohio have absentee voters laws which would seem to allow registered voters in military service to cast ballots by mail, and also provides that "in time of war," machinery is to be set up for collecting the soldier vote.

Other states which have made special provisions to facilitate soldier-voting include Arkansas, Delaware, Illinois and Pennsylvania, which collect the ballots where those in service are stationed, as do Kansas, Maine, Nevada and South Dakota, which also permit absentee voting by mail. In Massachusetts the secretary of state is commissioned to mail absentee ballots to those in service outside the state. Citizens of North Dakota on military duty also receive postage-paid ballots by mail at their stations.

Approximately one-third of the states permit absentee registration for voting, including soldiers and sailors in the privilege.

Early in the country's history most of the states had laws disfranchising those in military or naval service because there was a general fear of military domination.

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The six states which have the right to vote in local level elections

are: New Mexico, South Carolina, Florida and Alabama. In the five

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In the country's history most of the states had laws discriminating

Citizens' Confidence In Government Brings Low Tax Delinquency

When taxpayers feel that their city government is being run on a sound basis, they pay their taxes promptly and the city profits thereby. This is the consensus of six cities whose tax delinquencies were among the lowest in the country last year, according to a survey by the Municipal Finance Officers Association.

Finance officers in the 24 cities which had less than 5 per cent delinquency in 1939 were asked to list chief reasons for their good collection records. Of 15 replies received, those from Sacramento and San Diego, Calif., Denver, Colo., Buffalo, N.Y., Bridgeport, Conn., and Cedar Rapids, Ia., all cited such factors as "wholesome respect for municipal government," "public confidence in the government," and "operation of government on good business principles."

Contributing to the business-like conduct of government, according to the cities, are a reduction of current operating expenses and a sound debt policy, careful adherence to budgeting, and modernization of municipal departments.

Tax collection campaigns, for both current and delinquent taxes, also were given as important reasons for the good records of cities in the group. Long Beach and Pasadena, Calif., Buffalo and Niagara Falls, N.Y., Hartford, Conn., and Denver listed tax drives as a favored means of improving collections. Long Beach, for example, said: "Every effort is made to collect current and delinquent taxes by letters, telephone conversations and personal calls." Los Angeles, Denver and Buffalo reported that a firm policy on penalties for tax delinquency was valuable.

Low tax rates were responsible for good collections, according to Los Angeles, Bridgeport, Pasadena, and Birmingham, Ala. Buffalo gave special credit to its stable annual tax rate.

Bridgeport attributed good tax collections in part to the control, by zoning and city planning, of excess subdivision of land, which frequently contributes to tax delinquency. Long Beach reported that money received by old age pensioners from the state was helping pay tax bills. Sacramento praised the public sale of tax-delinquent properties through its municipal realty sales department. Peoria, Ill., said the fact that its citizens were largely home-owning made for good collections.

When taxpayers feel that their city government is doing well on a whole

and they pay their taxes promptly and the city provides the services they

need, they are more likely to have confidence in the city government.

Finance officers in the 24 cities which had been in the survey for

the first time were asked to list chief reasons for their good confidence rating.

Among the reasons listed were: "The city government is doing a good job of

providing the services we need," "The city government is doing a good job of

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San Francisco, San Jose, and Birmingham, Ala. Baltimore gave special credit to

Tennessee County To Attack Relief Problem By Joint Community Effort

Grundy county, Tenn., 60 to 70 per cent of whose population has been on relief rolls for the past few years, is enlisting federal, state and community agencies in a new economic and social service program designed to do more than just cut the relief load, the American Public Welfare Association reported today.

The program, which deals with fundamentals of the county's economic and social life, will be under the direction of a coordinating committee composed of the state university's director of farm extension service, and the state commissioners of public welfare and conservation. The committee plans to hire a coordinator to take continuous charge of the program, which is set up as a possible "demonstration" for other counties.

Aid of educators, welfare and health officials, the public employment office, and interested citizens will be depended upon to help carry out the plans in accordance with recommendations of a study made at the request of a group of Grundy county citizens and officials. The coordinating committee will work closely with any defense programs developed in the state or in neighboring states which might give vocational training to the 50 per cent of its dependent population in the youth group.

In prosperous times a flourishing mining community, Grundy county with the depression years changed mainly to an agricultural one unable to support many of its population of approximately 10,000. The relief study, which showed 11 relief programs in force under the direction of six different agencies--some federal, some state, some local--found that the problem was not entirely of local origin and could not be solved with local initiative and resources alone.

The main recommendations for an improved relief program made in the study pertain not only to public welfare and health administration, but to financial management, the use and conservation of natural resources, and an agricultural program. Some of the recommendations are part of a short-range plan, while others fit into a long-range program to give as many people as possible a permanent means of making a living.

In order to avoid duplication of relief aid, the coordinating committee will set up a central clearance file for the registration of all relief and social service cases. The existing health services such as the school-feeding and clinic programs will be coordinated with a more comprehensive program of maternal and child health, and a county-wide medical care committee will be established to cooperate with a similar state-wide committee.

To provide the \$9,000 needed annually to finance the county relief program, an adjustment in the county tax levy has been advised, along with a campaign for delinquent tax collections. An increase in Work Projects Administration jobs, with road money providing the local share of financing, will be considered. Joint housing for the local relief agencies and federal welfare services has been promised the county as a National Youth Administration building project.

A county-wide program of education, vocational training and recreation is planned, utilizing the county schools, the NYA, churches, 4-H clubs and other social and civic clubs. The conservation plan proposed would retain and revive forests, wild life, grazing, minerals and recreation resources as a means of economic income for the county. Along with the conservation plans are proposed both a long-range and a short-range agricultural program for the entire community.

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Cities Shorten Firemen's Work Periods

Twenty-four hour duty for firemen is on a gradual but steady decline in American cities, information from the International City Managers' Association showed today.

The continuous 24-hour schedule, which was common in the past, is being changed mainly by eliminating the single-platoon plans or by revising the double-platoon schedule to break up the long stretch of duty.

Only 17 of 367 cities over 25,000 population still have single-platoon systems, under which firemen work from two to six days continuously, then have 24 hours off. On the other hand, only a few cities--New York City, and Butte and Great Falls, Mont., among them--have three-platoon systems which, ordinarily, provide for 8-hour periods of duty.

At least half a dozen variations of the double-platoon system are used in the other cities, according to the Association. Some of these variations provide for a 24-hour period of duty. Simplest is the one in which the two platoons work alternate 24-hour shifts. In other cases, one platoon works for 10 hours daily for two days, then for 24 hours in changing to night duty, then 14 hours for two nights, then is off duty for 24 hours. This averages an 84-hour week on a cycle of several weeks.

By dividing its firemen into several groups, one city has worked out a system that avoids the 24-hour shift altogether. The entire force is divided into 10 groups and so combined that continuous service is maintained, with four groups working at one time. A complete cycle of the schedule takes 10 days, during which time each fireman has one 24-hour leave and one 48-hour leave. The average weekly working time under this system is 68 hours.

An unusual variation is used in San Francisco. Each fireman works the same general pattern of hours: six days on, 24 hours off, seven nights on, and 48 hours off. To provide continuous full strength in the fire force, however, the schedules overlap one another, with a group of the men beginning the cycle each day. In a typical 14-man company, for instance, no two men have cycles beginning on the same day.

The information is based on a recent survey by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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New York Creates First State Trichinosis Commission

A preventive campaign against trichinosis, an intestine and muscle disease contracted from undercooked, infected pork, was started by New York state recently in establishing a state trichinosis commission, the first to be set up in this country.

One of the important duties of the commission will be to study the desirability of state legislation to prevent the feeding of under-cooked pork scraps to hogs, according to the Council of State Governments. A recent survey showed that many cities follow the practice of feeding municipal garbage to hogs.

The New York commission also will investigate methods to prevent the infection of live hogs and pork with the trichina parasite through serum tests and microscopic inspection, and state meat inspection and refrigeration.

Several states have expressed interest in the new commission and its work, according to New York State Senator T. C. Desmond, who sponsored the bill creating the commission.

* * *

Crime Control

Bicycles - 10

One-Man Police Detail Cuts Bicycle Thefts

A one-man police bicycle detail is credited with reducing bicycle thefts more than 25 per cent during the first year of its operation in Sacramento, Calif., the International City Managers' Association reported today.

The bicycle detail was established simultaneously with the passing of an ordinance requiring licensing of all bicycles. All but 58 of the 289 bicycles stolen last year were returned to their owners.

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National Guard Officers Must Resign Governmental Offices In Many States

Recent resignations of an Illinois circuit court judge and a state legislator from their civil offices in anticipation of serving in the National Guard, in which they held commissions, call attention to the fact that such resignations will be required in most states of civil officers who also are officers of the guard, the National Association of Attorneys-General said today.

The resignations will be required under state constitutional or statutory provisions prohibiting the holding of office under two sovereigns. This was borne out in a recent opinion of the Illinois attorney-general, who held that governmental officers such as judges, city clerks and legislators automatically vacate their posts upon being ordered into active service as officers of the National Guard under the President's order.

The opinion cited the Illinois constitutional provision that no person holding an office "of honor or profit" under federal jurisdiction shall hold any office "of honor or profit" under authority of the states, and added: "Officers of the National Guard when ordered into active service by the President as authorized by Congress in case of a national emergency come within the constitutional provision, and are considered as holding offices of honor or profit under the government of the United States. It is the general rule that an acceptance of one office effects the resignation of the other. . . ."

It is not the mere possession of a title or designation from both governments that gives rise to a conflict of interest, but the doing of acts at the same time upon behalf of both as an officer, performing sovereign functions, according to the Association.

"It was never contemplated that a citizen of a state, while preparing and holding himself available for active service in event of a national emergency, would be precluded by the constitution from serving his state as a legislator. When he is

(MORE)

and the fact that the President is not a citizen of the United States.

Recent testimony of an Illinois circuit court judge and a state

attorney from their offices in anticipation of serving in the National Guard,

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President's order.

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shall hold office "of honor or profit" under federal jurisdiction of civil and criminal

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"It was never contemplated that a citizen of a state, while performing and

available for active service in event of a national emergency, would

ordered into active federal service a conflict does arise, however, and resignation from public office therefore is required," the Association said.

Since only a minority of public officers are members of the National Guard, a call to active duty will not greatly upset the functioning of state and local government, the Association said. The Association pointed out that such resignations will be required of public officers as distinguished from public employes. Generally speaking, a public officer holds a position created by law with duties--continuing rather than intermittent duties--which involve an exercise of some portion of sovereign power. In contrast, a public employe simply acts for his principal or employer.

In this connection, a recent opinion by Minnesota's attorney-general said Minnesota's law provides that public employes who are members of the National Guard or of the Officers Reserve Corps of the United States are entitled to a military leave of absence without loss of pay, status or vacation during their period of active service in the STATE National Guard.

The leave of absence provision does not apply to members of the National Guard ordered into federal service by the President's order because, the opinion said, when this occurs the state National Guard loses its status as such and becomes the federal National Guard. The President's order, it was pointed out, goes directly to the units of the state National Guard, and from the date of the order the guardsmen stand relieved from duty in the state guard and become members of the federal guard.

The state National Guard may, without losing status as such, be called into federal service to repel invasion or suppress rebellion, but in this case the President issues a call, which goes through the governor of the state to the officers of the guard, and the guard acts under state authority.

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JOINT REFERENCE

ARY

SEP 27 1940

Canadian Municipal Officials Report On Financial Problems Caused By War

The "most common effects" of the war on financial affairs of Canadian cities include a reduction in relief costs, a decrease in capital improvements, and "significant" municipal personnel changes. This was shown today by an analysis of reports from Canadian members of the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The analysis may constitute a guide to many developments which United States cities can expect as a result of the defense program, the Association said.

The reduction in relief costs has been an important effect of the war, according to the Association. Practically every employable person has been taken from the relief rolls in Brantford, Ont., the number of recipients in Ottawa dropped from 12,344 at the end of 1938 to 6,418 last July 31, while the number of heads of families on relief rolls in Verdun, Que., has dropped this year from 3,500 to 625. Glace Bay, N.S., however, reported no reduction in relief costs because most of the young men receiving relief were rejected by the army as unfit physically.

Personnel problems caused by the war are significant, many Canadian city officials say. Replacing permanent staff members on leave for permanent or short-time military duty presents several problems, one of which is what to do about payment of staff members in military service. Frequently employees are paid their full salaries for three weeks or a month, and in some cases a substantial portion of the difference between their municipal salaries and their pay as soldiers. In most cases persons who are absent in training with the non-permanent militia are given full pay during the training period.

The outstanding development in finances of Canadian cities to date, little more than a year after Canada entered the war, has been the reduction or elimination of public building. A speed-up in residential building activities has resulted, however, from defense activities and the influx of refugees from Europe. Vancouver, B.C., alone reports that building permits for the first eight months of 1940 amounted to \$5,915,615. There also is a demand for low cost housing and, in some cases, a necessity of extending public facilities.

Collection of local property taxes has improved in nearly all Canadian cities as a result of defense activities, the analysis showed. Funds available are greater, and increased business activity has brought about a spirit of optimism. There is a feeling, however, that increased federal levies eventually may take such a proportion of the resources that local tax collections may be affected. Men enlisted in the armed forces frequently are granted concessions for taxes against

(MORE)

their property. Naturally, officials say, demands along this line are being made which impose added burdens on local governments. All cities are affected by the national defense payroll tax, and must collect their employees' taxes through payroll deductions.

Fears of sabotage, leading to the employment of more guards at public utility plants and policemen and firemen in certain areas, caused a sudden increase in the cost of protecting public utilities at the start of the war. In Toronto alone, war protection measures since the war started have cost the city \$122,000. However, the provincial government now has assumed responsibility for protecting many properties. Added to police costs are costs of new insurance against damage from riots, sabotage and malicious destruction of public utilities. Many Canadian officials believe this insurance cost, as well as the police cost, should be charged against utility operating costs instead of to general funds of the city.

Costs of certain materials, supplies and equipment--coal and medical supplies among them--have increased in Canada, the increases due partly to exchange differences between Canadian and American dollars, and partly to rising costs within Canada. A shortage of casual labor has been noted by several communities; this eventually will mean increased labor costs.

Canadian municipalities which in the past have sold bonds payable in American exchange now are paying a heavy penalty because, officials say, most of the cities must pay an additional 11 per cent owing to the difference in exchange between the Canadian and the American dollar. Edmonton, Alta., will have added costs of \$70,000 this year, while Ottawa will be penalized \$99,139. As to the present sale of municipal bonds, some resistance has been noted and slight increases in interest rates reported. There is not yet, however, any evidence of a general increase in rates. Under new legislation in Ontario, callable bonds or debentures now may be issued in order that municipalities may take advantage of decreasing interest rates should the rates be greatly increased because of the war.

Legislative steps also have been taken to control grants and donations by local governments to patriotic societies, always in demand during such war periods. The province of Ontario has established a rigid control of donations and grants for certain patriotic purposes. Proposed grants must be submitted to the provincial department of public affairs, and only those patriotic organizations may be assisted which are registered with the secretary of state at Ottawa under the War Charities act. One municipality reports considerable loss of income through the free use of public buildings by patriotic societies and gatherings. This has been offset partially, however, by revenue from the rental of municipal equipment for use by contractors working on defense projects.

Many Canadian cities are looking forward to the time when the war will be over and employees now on leave will return, according to the report. One city official made this comment: "The very proper matter of veterans' preference will result in adding men over the usual age to the staff ... (which) will result in some lack of efficiency and ... added loads on employee retirement funds. These men will not have the years of service to build up the necessary retirement reserves in the ordinary way, and in addition the problem of the 'burned out' veteran will require more frequent and earlier retirement age. We found that in the last war men with several years of active service aged prematurely, particularly if exposed to gas; and while they gave good service for 10 years or more after the war they became, after that time, war casualties again. This is a condition that gave welfare departments much trouble, as frequently the man was past the time when his disability was acknowledged as a war case."

17 States Short-Cut Balloting For Presidential Electors

The presidential electors, originally supposed to use their independent judgment in the selection of a president, will not even be listed on the ballot in 17 states November 5, information from the Council of State Governments showed today. Five of these states are leaving the names of these candidates off the ballot this year for the first time.

State laws permitting the voter to mark his X in a single square next to the name of a presidential candidate, instead of checking the names of candidates for the electoral college, were enacted in California, Indiana and Maryland in 1937. Similar provisions in New York and Rhode Island were included in laws legalizing the use of voting machines also enacted since the last presidential election.

Other states of the 17 are Nebraska and Iowa, which have used the shortened form of voting since 1920, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington and Wisconsin. A similar form in Texas was ruled out by the attorney-general in 1932.

The existence of the presidential electors is acknowledged in these states by some provision such as that of the Ohio law, which says that "A vote for names of candidates for president and vice-president is a vote for the electors of that party, the names of whom are on file with the secretary of state."

In only 15 states--all in the South and West--are voters required to check their choices of individual electors, whose names are printed on the ballot along with those of the presidential and vice-presidential candidates. These states are Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and West Virginia.

Another arrangement under which the names of electoral candidates appear as a group on the ballot accompanied by the names of the presidential candidate but with only one voting square to be marked, is used by 13 states. They are Arizona, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia and Wyoming.

The third arrangement--a voting square for a group vote in addition to a square next the name of each elector candidate--is found on the ballots of three states: Maine, New Jersey and Vermont. This makes it possible for the voter to make a single check for the party vote or to vote separately for each presidential elector.

City, State Planning Agencies Aid In Defense Programs

City and state planning agencies are entering the national defense picture by supplying various kinds of information pertinent to preparedness, reports to the American Society of Planning Officials showed today.

Milwaukee, Brookhaven, N.Y., and Philadelphia are among cities where planning or housing agencies are making special efforts to collect such material. State planning boards reporting such action include those of Arkansas, California, Kansas, New York, Tennessee and Virginia.

Milwaukee, which has had a municipal committee on national defense since July, has received from its Board of Public Land Commissioners--local planning body--a three-part report on the city's housing and land use, labor supply and vacant industrial property. The defense committee is now able to tell at a glance the total number of structures, the total dwelling units, number of vacancies and rentals within the city. The report on vacant industrial property gives the location and size of empty buildings, the type of construction, total floor space, rail and water facilities, and a statement as to whether the property is for sale or for rent.

The Brookhaven planning commission has compiled a census of all land use, a complete outline of existing and planned roads, and a population map showing the most logical locations for possible newcomers. An industrial spot map indicating the present industrial areas with possible expansions, a map of the underground water supply, and a complete topographical map indicating the best areas for air fields have also been made. Coastline maps drawn by the Brookhaven planning agency are already in use by the state and national governments.

In Philadelphia, one of the important ordnance districts in the country, the local civic housing association is urging an immediate survey of housing conditions by the Philadelphia Housing Authority to prepare for a likely increase in worker population of several thousand, and periodic check surveys in the future. In order to help plan new housing for these workers, the civic agency also urges that the city planning commission, which has been without adequate funds for several years, be given an appropriation.

The state planning boards of Kansas and New York are making a survey of idle plant facilities and production capacity, and will compile a directory of manufacturing establishments. Planning agencies of California, Tennessee and Virginia are doing special research for their state defense councils, and the Arkansas State Planning Board has set up its own special defense committees to check on manpower, agricultural, forest and mineral resources, manufacturing plants and transportation facilities.

Chicago's War On 5,000,000 Rats Enters Second Stage

Chicago's campaign against rats, most thorough in the city's history, has gone into high gear, with 1,800 WPA employes spreading poison fatal only to the rodents through 29 of Chicago's 50 wards. This is the second step of an extermination program started a year ago, which will end next March.

The drive, according to information to the American Public Works Association, is directed against the 5,000,000 rats which city officials say menace health and cause \$7,000,000 damage a year to Chicago buildings and other properties.

First step in the program was to have buildings and homes obtain metal garbage containers with tight fitting lids. Pamphlets describing rat control methods were distributed, and city officials and employes visited home and building owners to explain the campaign and ask cooperation. As a result, the number of buildings without containers has been reduced from 96,000 to 18,000 of the 385,000 served by garbage collectors. City officials say more than \$85,000 has been spent on refuse containers since last September.

WPA crews started spreading rat poison three weeks ago in streets, alleys and back yards of three wards--the first wards to report a 100 per cent usage of refuse containers by building and home owners. As the number of wards with complete container protection increased to 29, the number of crews was increased. City officials expect 100 per cent protection in all 50 wards by the end of October.

It takes a crew from five to eight days to work through a ward, and each ward will be covered three times by next March, according to the present program. By that time areas with high rat infestation--along the river front and in slum areas--will be determined, and exterminator crews will concentrate their efforts on these areas. The poison is purchased with money from a \$5,000 fund appropriated for the campaign by the city council.

In spreading the poison, which is a slow-action type allowing rats to return to their holes to die, exterminator crews follow closely behind refuse collection trucks. Bait is placed beside containers and rat holes. After the poison has been spread for several days the crews fill all rat holes with dirt. When new holes are found more poison is spread, and the holes are filled or refilled. This procedure is followed until there are no rats in evidence.

Inasmuch as exterminator crew members may not enter buildings or homes, the owners are advised to carry on this inside work themselves through use of traps, commercial exterminators, or the type of poison used by the crews. Owners are cooperating "excellently," according to city officials.

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News

Community Celebrations Provide "Safe And Sane" Hallowe'en

A party-for-the-town has replaced Hallowe'en destruction in many communities which used to wake up on November 1 with broken windows and burned property, information from the American Municipal Association showed today. While the municipal parties usually take the form of parades and pageants, new features are reported as follows:

Centralia, Ill., one of the pioneers in community parties, last year gave its big parade a central theme of historical events.

Dubuque, Ia., occupied youngsters the week before the community Hallowe'en party by having them work at social centers on their costumes for the parade.

Berwyn, Ill., makes a whole week's festival out of Hallowe'en. A window soaping competition was a feature of last year's festival, which also included guessing contests sponsored by merchants in window displays, a costume parade and a big bonfire on Hallowe'en night.

Dalton, Mass., has found a "feast of lanterns" contest successful Hallowe'en entertainment for both adults and children throughout the county.

Birmingham, Mich., sponsors a community celebration featuring a free barbecue followed by a community sing, free movies for the young, and a dance for the older boys and girls.

Chico, Calif., schedules a football game and boxing exhibition for the high school youngsters, while the younger children go to parties given by the churches.

Columbia, Mo., holds a "barnwarming" party on Hallowe'en night, preceded by an "invitation night" a few days before, when boys drive through the town in horse-drawn wagons to invite their guests.

In Minneapolis, which has long sponsored community Hallowe'en, a Citizens' Committee sends notes to parents through the school children, reminding them it would be an opportune time to hold a private party. A "Big Brother" committee takes charge of younger boys on Hallowe'en night, escorting them to the movies or to various parties in the city, some of which are publicly sponsored.

Keokuk, Ia., rewards good behavior of its young citizens on Fourth of July and Hallowe'en with a two-day Christmas party.

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Contra Costa, Cal., one of the pioneers in community parties, last year gave its big parade a central theme of historical events.

Indianapolis, Ind., occupied youngsters the week before the community Halloween party by having them work at social centers on their costumes for the parade.

Berwyn, Ill., makes a whole week's festival out of Halloween. A window-decorating competition was a feature of last year's festival, which also included a contest sponsored by merchants in window displays, a costume parade, and a big bonfire on Halloween night.

Galton, Mass., has found a "fear of lanterns" contest successful Halloween on its own.

Birmingham, Mich., sponsors a community celebration featuring a tree-lighting, followed by a community sing, free movies for the young, and a dance for the older boys and girls.

Chicago, Ill., schedules a football game and boxing exhibition for the high school youngsters, while the younger children go to parties given by the churches.

Columbia, Mo., holds a "partymaking" party on Halloween night, preceded by a parade. The party is held in a large hall and the guests are invited to bring their own wagons to invite their guests.

It is reported that the city of Chicago has a large number of parties given by the churches, and that the city of New York has a large number of parties given by the churches.

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Accidents, Traffic

Half of Illinois' Auto Accidents Occurred At Intersections Last Year

Nearly half of the 24,000 reported automobile accidents in Illinois last year occurred at street and highway intersections, according to information from the International Association of Chiefs of Police based on a survey by the Illinois state highway department.

The survey showed also that nearly half of the accidents that occurred at 350 rural state highway grade crossings over a two-year period resulted from stop-sign violations.

Another fact disclosed by the study, the Association said, is the frequency with which angular type head-on collisions occur at "Y" type road junctions, where a right-of-way problem arises when a motorist going into the "Y" attempts to make the left turn.

At many rural junctions of Illinois state highways, accelerating and decelerating lanes have been constructed to aid the free movement of traffic. The study brought out the fact that motorists are not using the lanes to the extent anticipated, the Association said.

* * *

Aeronautics

Minnesota Boasts Country's Most Air-Minded Town

With 40 per cent of its men between the ages of 18 and 40 registered as pilots or student fliers, the town of Hector, Minn., claims to be the most air-minded town in the United States, according to the American Municipal Association.

Hector has 45 residents who do solo flying and another 100 taking flying instruction. Three members of the city council are licensed pilots, while the other two members are flying students.

The town is located 85 miles west of Minneapolis, and has a population of 1,044.

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OCT 4 1940

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States Lack Adequate Firearms Laws, Survey Finds

Present state laws covering the possession, sale and control of firearms place few deterrents in the way of criminals or subversive groups who may desire to accumulate weapons, a survey by the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

The majority of the statutes deal primarily with small firearms--pistols, revolvers, sawed-off shotguns and rifles--and are aimed mainly at preventing the carrying of concealed weapons by criminals. Aside from hunting license requirements and laws forbidding the possession of firearms by aliens, the survey found that rifles and shotguns are almost universally easily obtained and transferred.

Practically all the states attempt to regulate the carrying of firearms. A few states--Illinois, Kansas, Ohio and Wisconsin--flatly prohibit carrying concealed firearms on the person. Some states modify that flat prohibition, while others require a license or permit to carry firearms. Most of the latter states require a license only if the weapon is carried concealed on the person but six of them require a license to carry a firearm either concealed or openly. The survey found that 15 states require a license to carry firearms in a motor vehicle.

"All but ignored in present laws" is the requirement of a license to possess or purchase firearms, according to the survey. It added that the uniform firearms act adopted by five states and the District of Columbia does provide for "a fairly complete" record of all purchases of small arms.

Only 13 states and the District of Columbia require retail dealers to have a license to sell firearms and to keep specified records of their transactions. Fourteen other states require the records but not the licenses. Seven states expressly provide for the regulation of wholesalers, the survey said.

Four states--Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island--at present require the fingerprinting of applicants for licenses.

The possession of any firearm by an alien is prohibited in Nebraska, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming. The majority of the states have no legislation covering the use of firearms by aliens, according to the survey. Most states which have such laws prohibit the possession or carrying of firearms concealable on the person, with little attention to possession of other firearms, it was found.

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Few Assessors And Their Staffs Chosen By Modern Personnel Standards, Study Shows

Employees in the assessor's office as well as the assessor himself should be selected on the basis of modern personnel standards, a special Committee on Assessment Organization and Personnel of the National Association of Assessing Officers recommended in a report today.

The recommendation was one of several made by the committee following a study of personnel conditions in the 26,000 local assessment districts in the country. The study showed that only about 460 local assessment offices are subject to merit system laws, and many employees even in these offices are outside the "classified service," which means they are exempt from the merit system. In only 12 cities and the 120 counties of Kentucky did the committee find the assessor himself under a formal merit system.

Most of the employees in the assessors' offices not under the merit system are chosen by the assessor or his personnel officer through an oral interview, and in only a few cases is the interview supplemented with written tests.

The assessor almost never has complete authority over his subordinate personnel. A few districts pay the assessor a commission and allow him to select as many subordinates as he chooses, to be paid from his commission at rates he and the employees agree upon. At the other extreme are districts in which the assessor has no discretion at all as to the number or compensation of employees in his department and little or no voice in their selection or discharge.

The first recommendation of the report was that each subordinate position in the assessing department be classified according to the duties and responsibilities assigned, and that a standardized pay plan covering all positions be adopted.

In recruiting personnel for assessing department work, the persons in the important technical positions should be chosen from as wide a geographical area as possible, and all vacancies should be filled only after appropriate examination of the candidates, the report advised. Promotions are recommended to be made primarily on the basis of merit, not seniority on the job.

The report also recommended that assessing employees be given in-service training, and that efforts be made to minimize temporary or part-time employment. Working conditions for assessing department employees "should compare favorably with those provided by the best private employers in the locality," the report said, recommending also that sound retirement and disability systems be set up for these employees.

The assessor should be authorized to dismiss employees, but "only for cause stated in writing," the report recommended, while disciplinary action for violation of rules and standards of conduct should be administered "promptly, fairly and in certain terms."

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The report also recommended that assessing employees be given incentives

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Municipalities Take Steps To Guard Against Sabotage

Municipal plans for guarding against sabotage are in formulation in a number of cities, reports to the American Municipal Association showed today. While the police department is the usual agency organized for this duty, in some cases the cities are mobilizing other efforts to protect such vulnerable points as industrial plants, the municipal water supply and bridges.

Duluth, Minn., has set up a school of training for watchmen in all industrial plants within a 75-mile area. Duluth police are instructors. Monthly meetings bringing together the industrial leaders of Duluth and Superior are being planned for the purpose of discussing matters concerning defense with the various law enforcement agencies.

The director of safety of Philadelphia has announced plans for special instruction of more than one-third of the local police personnel in handling sabotage. For the time being, the men selected for this special duty will continue with their regular police duties.

In Chicago the police department has listed 674 "vulnerable" points throughout the city for protection against sabotage. Bridges and canals, ports and wharves, light and power plants, banks, armories, cribs and water works, radio stations and telephone exchanges are included. Commanders of the city's six major police divisions have special plans under way to cooperate with the police heads of the city's 41 precincts, for protection of these locations.

In Connecticut, where police plans for the emergency are under direction of the state police commissioner, police heads of the eight counties are surveying all manufacturing plants, public service companies, gasoline storage places and other points where sabotage may be anticipated.

New York City has gained an emergency declaration closing the city's watersheds, which extend through several counties, to prevent sabotage through such channels. The mandate, signed by the governor, extends to March 31, 1941.

New York City and Newark, N.J., will soon have "bomb taxis" to carry packages suspected of being infernal machines out of the danger area. The Newark carrier is described as a trailer with floors and sides lined with sand bags, and a top of thin wood through which an explosion, if one does occur, may spend its force.

State and local law enforcement officers and industrial-plant and public-utility executives can obtain from the Federal Bureau of Investigation a manual of protective measures against sabotage, the Association said. The manual is confidential, each copy must be registered, and it remains government property.

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local police duties.

In Chicago the police department has listed 64 "vulnerable" points

throughout the city for protection against sabotage. Bridges and canals, ports and

wharves, light and power plants, banks, armories, crypts and water works, radio

stations and other points are included in the list of vulnerable points.

Police divisions have special plans under way to cooperate with the police heads of

the city's 41 precincts, for protection of these locations.

In Connecticut, where police plans for the emergency are under discussion or

are being formulated, the state police are being urged to coordinate their plans

with those of the local police departments.

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Tax Exemption On Public, Private Property Reduces Revenues For Oregon Counties

Revenue losses resulting from tax exemption of real property owned by governmental agencies and certain private institutions are leading many local governments to investigate the basis for the exemptions and advisability of their continuance.

A recent study by the Bureau of Municipal Research of the University of Oregon showed the ratio of tax-exempt property to be about 28 per cent, compared to an estimated national ratio of 15.5 per cent. Through this preferment on properties owned by the state, the schools, the federal government and certain private agencies, the Oregon counties are giving up many thousands of dollars a year in tax revenues, the study said.

If all tax-exempt property in the three Oregon counties--Marion, Linn, and Lane--were placed on the assessment rolls, it would be listed at a valuation of \$38,326,509. Approximately 90 per cent of this untaxed property, which represents from one-sixth to one-third of the respective county areas, is in public ownership--more than 50 per cent federal, 20 per cent state, and 20 per cent local. Much of the federal land is national forest. Ten per cent in private hands is held by religious organizations, charitable and benevolent institutions, literary and scientific agencies, veterans, and Indians.

Within the cities of these three counties, where most of the tax-exempt property is located, privately owned property that pays no taxes amounts to about one-fourth of the total exemptions. Thirty-eight per cent of the government-owned tax-free property in the cities is owned by the state; 15 per cent by the schools; 11 per cent by the city itself; 8 per cent by the county; and only three per cent by the federal government.

The federal government pays taxes on property used for such federal agencies as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, and has made legislative provision to make payments to local governments in lieu of taxes on forest and grazing land, plus 10 per cent of net receipts from national forest income, for road work.

As in many states, tax-exempt property in Oregon has tended to increase during recent years, according to the study. The state has taken over many pieces of property through mortgage foreclosures, and tax foreclosures by the counties and cities have added to public ownership. Private institutions eligible for exemption have grown in number and personal exemptions have increased.

Among the questions the cities and counties in Oregon and other states are asking in their investigations are whether federal cash contributions in lieu of taxes are enough to make up for lost taxes; whether the value of state expenditures within local areas where state property is concentrated justifies the exemption from local taxes; and whether a local government should be required to pay taxes on any of its property which lies outside its own boundaries.

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the Oregon counties are giving up many thousands of dollars a year in tax revenues.

If all tax-exempt property in the three Oregon counties—Marion, Multnomah, and
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\$25,000,000. Approximately 25 per cent of this amount would be subject to public ownership—
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than 25 per cent exempt, 25 per cent assess, and 25 per cent local. Much of the
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State Price Control Laws Now Found In Many StatesCompetition - Legislation

State price control laws, designed to prevent sale of merchandise below cost, to regulate resale price, and prevent discrimination by discount or rebate have built up at a rapid rate within the past four or five years, an analysis by the Council of State Governments showed today. The courts have challenged a number of these acts, however, the Council said, and in some states their constitutionality is still in question.

Current count shows that there are 44 resale price control acts, 24 statutes prohibiting sales below cost, and 24 anti-discrimination statutes applying to commodities in general use. The quick growth of these acts, according to the Council, reflects the way merchandising has changed since the turn of the century with the development of mail order houses, department and chain stores and super markets.

Under the resale price maintenance system, supported by acts of one type or another in all states except Delaware, Missouri, Texas and Vermont, the manufacturer of trademarked goods names his selling prices, which wholesalers and retailers must adhere to. He thus controls the margins of profit realized by distributors and the prices paid by consumers, so that there can be no "cut-throat" price cutting.

Twenty-three of the 44 resale price control acts are based on a California statute passed in 1931 which made possible contracts between manufacturers and distributors or retailers fixing the resale price of trademarked commodities. Nineteen of the states have resale price control acts based on a model drafted by the retail druggists' association, which prohibits the making of gifts, concessions or combination sales in connection with price-restricted commodities. Two other states combine features of both.

Two chief types of statutes are found in the 24 states which prohibit sales below cost, the Council said. The "unfair sales act," providing for the addition of a 6 per cent mark-up to the invoice or replacement cost of merchandise, is in force in 10 states--Arizona, Connecticut, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin. The "unfair practices act," which combines anti-discrimination provisions with a prohibition of sales below cost, has been adopted by nine states--Arkansas, California, Colorado, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Utah, Minnesota and West Virginia have combined the two and the New Jersey and Pennsylvania acts differ from both.

Anti-discrimination laws are directed against the practice of extending favorable prices or rebates to chosen customers. California was also the first to pass this type of unfair competition act, and has been followed by 36 states which apply their statutes to commodities in general use or to specific goods. Twenty-four of these provisions are distinct acts, while others are included in the states' unfair practice laws or anti-trust laws.

The emphasis in the anti-discrimination laws is usually against discrimination the eventual effect of which may be to lessen, destroy or prevent competition. Several states expressly prohibit the granting of a commission, brokerage or other compensation. In addition, many states have legislated specifically against secret rebates, refunds, collateral contracts or other devices effecting discrimination. Public utilities and cooperatives are usually exempt from the acts.

The Council's analysis was made from information supplied by the Marketing Laws Survey.

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The emphasis in the anti-discrimination laws is usually against termination the eventual effect of which may be to lessen, destroy or prevent

Fort Worth One of Last Few Big Cities To Adopt Zoning

Zoning - Ordinance - Texas

Fort Worth, Tex., one of the few remaining large cities in the country which has been without a zoning ordinance, now has such an ordinance by unanimous action of its council last month, the American Society of Planning Officials reported today.

The ordinance, among other provisions, prevents the construction of "garage apartments," in the rear of lots. It also contains a provision ordering the elimination of "nonconforming" billboards in residential districts within three years.

Fort Worth attempted adoption of a zoning ordinance 12 years ago, but it was turned down because of opposition of citizens.

* * *

Colorado Sets Up Centralized Tax Records

Taxation - Administration - Colorado

The taxpayer in Colorado is coded and carded for all his payments to the state in a new centralized tax record system unique in tax-collection procedure, the Federation of Tax Administrators reported today.

All relevant information for each taxpayer for sales, income, motor fuel and inheritance taxes goes on a single card as a permanent record, while a smaller card, with less detail, is used for monthly entries.

The system was devised in order to simplify record keeping and to combine at one point most of the information necessary for auditing purposes that would otherwise be scattered over the dissimilar record systems of the numerous state taxing divisions.

* * *

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Centralized Tax System

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in a new centralized tax board as he makes his collection payments.

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Tax Measures, Legislators' Pay, Prominent on State Ballots Nov. 5

Voters of more than 30 states will approve or reject approximately 175 constitutional amendments and initiative or referred measures when they cast their ballots November 5, information from the Council of State Governments showed today.

By comparison with the past two or three years, fewer old age security propositions and other social welfare measures are on state ballots. Outstanding instead are revenue-raising and control measures, and proposals to increase legislators' compensation.

At least 20 tax measures, including a number of new property tax exemptions, will be considered. In Arkansas, the exemption of \$50 worth of personal property for single persons and \$100 for married persons is pending. Arizona and North Dakota ballots contain amendments granting homestead exemptions of \$5,000. Louisiana voters will consider four exemption amendments, including extension of the exemption of new industries.

Two states--North Dakota and Oklahoma--will ask voters to consider authorization of graduated land taxes which would result in the application of low property tax rates on small holdings of land and higher rates on large holdings. North Dakotans also will vote on a provision to assess different classes of property at different percentages of their full value--from 25 per cent for household furnishings, personal effects and farm equipment to 100 per cent for public utilities. Colorado voters will decide whether to fix minimum income tax rates and maximum exemptions in the constitution. Washington voters will be asked to approve a 40-mill tax limitation passed by the legislature in 1939. Arizonans will consider limiting the property tax rates for state and county purposes, and freezing certain other tax rates now in force.

Among other revenue measures under consideration are a one-cent increase in the gasoline tax in Louisiana. Arizona and Oregon ballots list measures to legalize gambling devices and lotteries, while a Colorado proposal would do the same for horse and dog racing, all three deriving license fees for the state.

Changes in legislative salaries and regulations for the lawmakers will be on the ballots of at least nine states, the Council's information showed. In line with the recent trend toward putting legislators' pay on a "more reasonable" basis, Louisiana's proposed constitutional amendment would give a \$1,200 annual salary to members of both houses, plus an additional \$10 a day during attendance at sessions. In Washington a \$50 maximum monthly salary is proposed for legislators in place of the

(MORE)

PAGE 2--Add amendments, initiative and referred measures x x x in place of the \$5 per diem now paid. Tennessee's proposal would raise legislative pay from \$4 to \$10 a day for a 75-day regular session plus a 20-day special, and allow \$4 in addition for every 25 miles of travel. Oregon's measure would increase compensation from \$3 to \$8 a day for a 50-day regular session period and a 20-day special, plus 10 cents a mile for travel. Other proposals are: an increase from \$5 a day to a straight \$750 salary for a 90-day session in Maryland; \$125 a month instead of \$5 per diem in Missouri.

South Carolina voters will consider changing from annual to biennial legislative sessions, and Californians will ponder an opposite switch, limiting sessions to 60 days. New Mexico voters will consider splitting the legislative session into two 30-day periods.

Of old age security measures pending, Colorado's proposal would reduce the state's present \$45-a-month "pension" to \$30, while an initiated measure in Washington would provide for citizens over 65 a minimum grant of \$40 a month, "minus the income of applicant from other sources." An Arkansas proposal would set up a new old age assistance system, reducing the eligible age from 65 to 60 years, while a California amendment would release liens, mortgages and other claims taken by counties as security for old age assistance.

On the ballots of four states are proposals to remove the so-called double liability of state bank stockholders which now makes such stockholders responsible for twice the par value of the amount of stock they hold in banks that fail. All but a few states have already repealed such statutory or constitutional provisions. States whose voters consider the move November 5 are Indiana, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Liquor control measures are on the ballots of Arkansas, Idaho, Maine, Oklahoma and Oregon. Authorization of local option is up in the first three states, while Idaho also is voting on a proposal to limit the amount of liquor to be sold in one day and to prohibit liquor advertising. Oklahoma's proposition would repeal prohibition throughout the state.

Constitutional earmarking of gasoline and motor fuel taxes for highway purposes only is on the ballots of Idaho, Missouri, Nevada and South Dakota. Arizona and Oklahoma measures provide for local sharing of the gasoline tax.

Other measure to be considered by the voters are: establishment or reorganization of fish and game commissions, in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Missouri and Maryland; state civil service, in Kansas, Louisiana and Michigan; absentee voting, providing for the soldier vote, in New Mexico; abolition of justice of peace courts and constables, in West Virginia; and permission to women to hold any state office, in Oklahoma.

Louisiana's ballot carries the largest number of propositions--27--and four others were previously voted on this year in May. California is next, with 17, while Arizona has 10, and Arkansas 12. * * *

Citizens In All 48 States Must Have At Least Three Qualifications To Vote

Voters must qualify on three to nine counts in every state to cast their ballots in November, the Council of State Governments said today. Besides qualifications of age, citizenship and residence, those of many states include payment of poll taxes, literacy and registration.

Age, citizenship and residence requirements must be met in every state before a person can vote, the Council said. The voter must be at least 21 years old in every state--the one standard and unvarying requirement.

Voters must be United States citizens in all 48 states, although a few states have set up other provisions concerning citizenship and voting. For example, the would-be voter must be a citizen for 90 days in California, New York and Utah; three months in Minnesota; and for one month in Pennsylvania.

Residence requirements vary from six month to two years, the usual requirement being residence in a state for one year. Thirty-two states have this requirement, while five states require residence for two years, and 11 states for six months.

Registration for voting under permanent or periodic registration laws is required in all but three states--Arkansas, Vermont and Texas. There is permanent registration on a statewide basis in 21 states; on a local basis in 17 states. Five states require periodic registrations on a statewide basis, two states on a local basis.

Only eight of the 14 states with poll taxes make the payment of the tax a prerequisite to voting. A person must pay all poll taxes owed since 1901 before he can vote in Alabama, while in Virginia the voter must pay poll taxes due, if any, for three years preceding the election. Other poll tax states in this group are Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Eleven states mention property ownership in their laws governing the right to vote, but only three of the states--Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina--have specific provisions applying to voting in a presidential election. Alabama voters' property must be free of tax delinquency, unless they can qualify under an alternative literacy provision; all property taxes must be paid in Mississippi; and ownership of property is an alternative to literacy in South Carolina.

A person must be able to pass a literacy test to vote in 19 states, but in several of these states there are alternative qualification provisions. Oklahoma has an exception as to literacy tests in that "a lineal descendant of a person entitled to vote Jan. 1, 1866, may vote regardless of his ability to read and write."

21 States Exempt Veterans' Property From Taxes

Although 21 states exempt veterans from real estate or personal property taxes, only one state--New Jersey--extends this exemption to those who are now entering military service, the National Association of Assessing Officers found from a survey today. It is reported that the next session of the Massachusetts legislature will be asked to grant property tax exemptions to conscripted and enlisted residents.

The veterans' exemption laws of the other 20 states apply only to those who have served their country in time of war. Ten states do not specify any particular war, and therefore would grant the preference to veterans of future wars without amendment of present laws. The laws of the 11 other states designate one to nine specific wars.

The 21 states granting exemptions are Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah and Wyoming.

Seven of the states--Alabama, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Oregon and Utah--grant exemptions only to disabled veterans, while Idaho and Michigan grant them to all veterans of early wars but only to disabled veterans of the World War.

In 18 of these states, certain relatives of veterans may either claim an additional exemption or absorb any exemption which has not been fully taken by a veteran. For example, a veteran's widow is allowed the exemption which her late husband would be entitled to in all the states of the group except Alabama, Arizona, Montana and Nevada. Six states permit the wife of a veteran to share his exemption; while four states permit the veteran's mother, three states permit his minor children, and two states permit his father either to share an exemption or to claim exemption under specified conditions.

In 17 of the 21 states the exemption is allowed on any type of taxable property. In Oklahoma the exemption applies only to personal property; in Michigan only to homesteads; in Maine, only to homesteads and personal property; in New York, only to real property purchased out of the proceeds of pensions, bonuses and war-risk insurance; and in Montana, only to property held by guardians of incompetent World War veterans and derived from funds received from the federal government.

All states except Montana put a limitation on the amount of the exemption, ranging from \$200 in Oklahoma to \$5,000 in Maine and New York. Eight states make the exemption \$1,000. Eight states also further restrict the exemption by imposing a "means test": if the total value of a veteran's property exceeds a certain amount--usually \$5,000--he is ineligible for the exemption.

The total valuation of property exempted under the veteran's preference laws in the 21 states is estimated at approximately \$350,000,000, representing a loss in tax revenues to state and local governments of about \$10,000,000 a year.

New Comprehensive Program Drafted For 60 Governmental Units In Ohio County

Montgomery county, Ohio, where Dayton in 1914 became the first large community to employ a city manager, is pioneering again in local government by drafting a comprehensive financial and administrative program for all 60 units of local government--including the school systems--within its area, according to a report today from the Public Administration Service.

The program was drafted for the Public Advisory Committee, an unofficial organization of 9,000 persons, by a survey board headed by Col. Henry M. Waite, the first city manager of Dayton, after a study of the resources and services of all local governments in the county and of the state laws under which they operate.

The Committee, organized in 1938 when the city had to close its schools for lack of funds, saw that the financial troubles of the schools were only a part of the general problem of local government, which no single official unit in the community had legal authority to solve. With the official approval of the Board of County Commissioners, the Dayton Board of Education and the Dayton City Commission, the Committee undertook its general survey of the functions and interrelationships of the 60 local governments in the county.

The survey board, after studying the organization, management methods and programs of the various units with the help of expert consultants, recommended among other things a revision of the school curriculum, a reorganization of the county government and more extensive cooperation among the governmental units.

The survey also found that local governments in Ohio were hampered by certain types of state control, and recommended that "ontgomery county citizens join with others to foster a restoration of local "home rule," a revision of state legal provisions that cause unnecessary expense and delay in public business, and a clarification and codification of state laws relating to local government.

The Dayton Board of Education, since the publication of the report, has put several of its recommendations into effect. It reorganized the school system according to the "8-4" plan, with eight elementary and four high school grades; set up almost 100 committees of teachers, parents and administrative officers to revise the curriculum; and put before the voters, for decision on November 5, the proposal to renew and increase the school tax levy in order to put the school system, including even the construction of new schools, on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Police Departments of Two Illinois Cities Install New "F-M" Police Radio

Two Illinois cities--Chicago and a suburb, Maywood--soon will be the first municipalities in the country to equip their police squad cars with the new static-free frequency modulation radios, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today. The equipment has been ordered by both cities, and should be installed and in operation by the end of the year.

In adopting frequency modulation, usually called "F-M," Chicago and Maywood follow in the footsteps of the Connecticut state police department, which recently became the first to set up a complete state-wide network operating on the ultra-high frequency radio band.

Two hundred F-M transmitters have been ordered by the Chicago department, to be installed in about 180 squad cars, and in a few fire department motor units. For the time being the squad cars will continue to receive messages on the regular (amplitude modulation) equipment, using the F-M equipment only for sending messages to headquarters.

In addition to the transmitters, the department has purchased 16 F-M receiving sets which will be placed in operation at various district stations in Chicago. The receiving sets will be connected with the central receiving office, so that the outlying stations may receive information along with central headquarters.

Eventually, the Association said, the Chicago police department hopes to operate its entire two-way system over frequency modulation equipment.

Maywood, with three squad cars, will use F-M for both sending and receiving.

Although the range of frequency modulation broadcasting does not exceed 100 miles, F-M has certain advantages over standard broadcasting, according to the Association. By operating on an ultra-high frequency, the system eliminates the usual radio interference--either man-made or atmospheric.

Chicago police radio officials say F-M eliminates all interference which might be caused by high buildings, the elevated transportation system, railroads and bridges.

What Should The City Tell The Taxpayer? Checklist Suggests Items

Should that fabled little man, John Q. Citizen, be informed about how many kids used the city playgrounds last summer, and what the municipal hospital pays out for each patient? Does he have the right to find out whether the city's street lighting is adequate by examining the evidence of municipal crime and accident rates?

Yes, according to a document just published by the International City Managers' Association, which consists of a checklist of 257 items considered worthy of inclusion in annual municipal reports.

The list, which was compiled with the aid of about 50 well-known authorities in the various government fields, includes items for every city activity from health to city planning. While many cities will not be able to report on every one of the items in the checklist, the Association said, they should all report more information about their activities or departments than the checklist itself specifies. A general descriptive write-up is recommended for every municipal department, to include an outline of new and unfamiliar activities, and discussion of good and bad results, along with personnel and financial information.

The checklist leaves the method of presenting the suggested items up to the individual city, but mentions that tables, graphs, pie charts and pictorial statistics are handy ways of showing John Q. how his taxes are spent. Lengthy statistical tabulations are "out."

The list is offered as a tentative one, and city governments are invited to send in their suggestions for changes and additions.

* * *

Oklahoma Reports Sales, Use Tax Collections By Classes Of Business

By reporting sales and use tax collections by classes of business, the Oklahoma Tax Commission is getting new and interesting information, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada said today. The unique reporting method shows that in Oklahoma during the 1939-40 fiscal year the general merchandise group supplied the most revenue--25.97 per cent. Next came the food group, 24.20 per cent; then public utility and transportation, 10.68 per cent. The largest number of sales tax returns--33.26--came from the food group.

The largest use tax contributors during the 1939-40 year were the oil industries--29.25 per cent. Then came the public utility and transportation group, which accounted for 24.04 per cent of the total use tax collections.

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Airports - Finance

Municipal Airports On Lookout For Operating Revenue

Municipal airport managers, who have seen airport operating costs mount with the growth of aviation, and now anticipate added expense in connection with the national defense program, are on the lookout for ways to cut costs and secure new revenues, a survey by the American Municipal Association showed today.

Only about 10 per cent of the 650 municipal airports in the country pay their way, according to the survey. The other 90 per cent draw regularly on tax funds to meet operating deficits. Since airports have become routine municipal services, cities are less willing to subsidize them, and officials face the necessity of planning and budgeting expenditures to make the record show black instead of red.

The typical terminal airport--one of approximately 200 listed as regular stops on scheduled air transport lines--gets about 86 cents of each dollar of income from four sources, the survey said. These sources are landing fees, hangar and storage fees, rents, and income from oil and gasoline sales.

The schedule of charges varies widely, according to the survey. Hangar and storage fees in nine cities range from \$1 to \$2 a night and from \$5 to \$50 a month. Annual income from ground rental and office space represents a sizeable amount to a number of cities--one city receives \$8,500 yearly--and nothing to others. A few cities in the group charge for use of landing facilities and flood lights. These cities charge fliers other than scheduled operators up to \$125 a month for use of the airport for each round trip.

Only a few municipal airports have developed sources of non-aviation revenue. Minneapolis reported a net income of \$4,000 last year from a city-operated restaurant, and additional income from hotel and garage facilities at the air field. Madison, Wis., adds \$500 a year to airport income by leasing unused airport land to a farmer for planting. Little Rock, Ark., got \$1,000 last year from a hay crop harvested from its 200-acre air field. New York City derived as much as \$2,000 a day

(MORE)

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The schedule of charges varies widely, according to the survey. Denver and
Chicago are the two cities that charge the most for parking and storage.
Annual income from ground rental and office space represents a sizeable amount to a
number of cities--one city receives \$8,700 yearly--and nothing to others. A few
cities also receive income from the sale of land, and a few from the sale of buildings.

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income. Minneapolis reported a net income of \$4,000 last year from a city-operated
restaurant, and additional income from hotel and garage facilities at the air field.
Wichita, again \$200 a year to airport income by leasing unused airport land to
a private business. Other cities have reported income from the sale of land, and a few from the sale of buildings.

in revenue from charges for general admission and parking at LaGuardia Field until it closed the airport to sightseers recently.

The largest portion of the expenditure dollar of the 200 terminal airports-- 53 cents--goes for salaries, while the other 47 cents go for light, heat and power, hangar operation, insurance, and other operating and maintenance expenses. As air transport activity increases, the expenses that mount are maintenance of the field area, runways, field lighting and air-traffic control.

Among questions which officials in airport cities are asking are these: Do the air transports pay their share toward upkeep of airports? Are they paying equal amounts for equal services? If improvements for defense purposes are financed by federal funds, how will airports pay for the added operating and maintenance expense?

Before cities can make a paying business out of airports, they need detailed and definite information on which fair standards of airport charges can be based, and they must get the habit of managing airports as carefully as other types of municipal enterprise, the Association said.

The survey suggested that the Civil Aeronautics Board might well gather the information necessary to arrive at a basis for airport charges. A similar step was taken in Great Britain, where the local governments submitted schedules of charges, and standard rates of charge were made up from the combined information.

Revenue for airport support, the survey suggested, might include taxes on gasoline for aviation use, now exempt in 28 states. Aircraft manufacturing plants located at or near airports could furnish revenue by paying for use of the field for test flights. Space now furnished free to governmental agencies such as the weather bureau and post office department might be rented, as it is in a few cities, since these agencies serve others besides fliers.

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Ballots Vary Widely In Different States

Many varieties of the Australian secret ballot, first adopted in this country in Kentucky in 1888, will be marked by voters in 45 of the 48 states in the November 5 election, the Council of State Governments said today.

The three states which have not adopted the Australian ballot are Delaware, Georgia and South Carolina. Delaware allows party leaders to distribute ballots before election day. In Georgia, although a variation of the Australian ballot is provided for by state law, each county has the option of its use. South Carolina still uses "party papers"---each party putting out its own ballots.

Some states put all candidates and questions on a single ballot, while others use separate ballots for different levels of government or types of questions. A "blanket" ballot, carrying all the offices and all the initiated and referred measures, is used in 25 states. In 17 states the principal ballot carries most of these items, but a separate ballot may carry constitutional amendments, as in Nebraska, or local questions and local judicial candidates, as in Illinois. In three states---Indiana, North Carolina and Vermont---separate ballots are used for state, federal and local offices, and for constitutional questions.

The three remaining states are distinctive. Maine's November election is solely for presidential electors, the citizens voting in September on a blanket candidate ballot and on a referendum ballot. In Virginia the general election in the even-numbered year is exclusively national, and in the off year a blanket candidate ballot and a separate proposition ballot are marked. Under South Carolina's "party papers" system, the law restricts the number of separate papers each party may issue: one each for federal offices, other offices, and constitutional amendments and special questions.

Desire to free judicial, educational or legislative offices from partisan politics and to separate local from national issues has led seven states to print separate ballots from which all party labels are omitted. Some states require separate ballots for referred measures and constitutional amendments. A number of states secure a non-partisan effect by the positions given these propositions and offices on the ballot.

As safeguards against unofficial ballots, most of the states require an official endorsement printed or stamped on the back of every ballot. In all states the ballot must be folded before it is deposited. Twenty-five states require some form of stub to circumvent chain voting, or "the Tasmanian dodge"---a ruse by which one stolen ballot starts an endless chain of marked ballots deposited by bought voters.

Another device for identifying the ballot is the initialing or signing of the ballot on the back by one or more judges or clerks. Arkansas passed a duplicate ballot law in 1935. The box of duplicate ballots, which are signed by voters, remains unopened except in case of a contested election.

Arrangement and content of the face of the ballot used in general elections is not identical in any two of the 48 states. Thirty states, however, in general follow the party-column pattern; and 17 the office-group pattern.

many variations of the Australian ballot, those adopted in this country in 1892, will be wanted by voters in 1900 or the 15 states in the next election, the Council of State Government and Education.

The three parties which have adopted the Australian ballot are the Democrats and South Carolina, Delaware, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Some states have adopted the Australian ballot for all elections, while others have adopted it for some elections only. In some states, the Australian ballot is used for all elections, while in others it is used only for some elections. In some states, the Australian ballot is used for all elections, while in others it is used only for some elections.

A "blanket" ballot, carrying all the offices and all the legislative and executive measures, is used in 25 states. In 14 states the principal ballot carries most of the offices, but a separate ballot may carry constitutional amendments, as in Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina and Vermont. Separate ballots are used for federal, state, and local offices, and for constitutional questions.

The three remaining states are distinctive. Maine's system of election is a ballot for presidential electors, the electors voting in the state on a ballot, and on a referendum ballot. In Virginia the general election is held on the even-numbered year in an exclusively legislative, and in the odd year a ballot for the governor and a separate proposition ballot are used. In North Carolina the law restricts the number of separate offices and party names on each ballot for federal offices, other offices, and constitutional amendments and local questions.

Desire to free judicial, educational or other offices from party influence and to separate local from national issues has led seven states to use separate ballots from which all party labels are omitted. These states are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, and Idaho. A number of states have adopted a non-partisan ballot for voters to select judges, school directors, and other local officers. The ballot is used for the election of judges, school directors, and other local officers.

As safeguards against restricted ballots, most of the states require that the ballot be printed or stamped on the back of every ballot. In all states the ballot must be folded before it is deposited. Twenty-five states require that the ballot be folded before it is deposited. Twenty-five states require that the ballot be folded before it is deposited.

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It and content of the face of the ballot used in general elections in two of the 15 states. Thirty states, however, in general elections, use the Australian ballot.

Construction Cost Record Broken In Fort Wayne Housing Development

Contracts let by the Fort Wayne, Ind., housing authority for construction of a 120-unit low cost housing development at an average net construction cost of \$1,830 a unit have broken all cost records for northern projects assisted by the United States Housing Authority.

The \$1,830 includes the cost of building the housing units plus plumbing, heating and electrical installation costs, and is 15 per cent less than the previous low of \$2,137 per unit for the Armistead Gardens project in Baltimore, according to information today from the National Association of Housing Officials.

In addition, the average monthly rent of \$10.83 per family in the Fort Wayne project is substantially lower than the average of \$14.28 for all northern projects where rents have been approved by the USHA, the Association said.

As designed by the Fort Wayne housing authority, the project will consist of one-story dwellings in twin and row houses. The units will have concrete slab flooring, frame walls with asbestos siding, sloping frame roofs with asphalt shingles, and plastered interiors. Each dwelling will have a living room, kitchen with space for dining, one to three bedrooms and storage space. Each unit will be equipped with modern plumbing and electrical conveniences, a gas stove for cooking, and a stove for heating.

Planning and designing the project, Fort Wayne housing officials said, could be compared with the task of building a factory: the aim was to produce structures for a definite use at the lowest possible cost. A study was made of building costs in minor residential developments, and these minimum costs served as a yardstick in designing the project units.

Considered basic in making preliminary designs were the following principles: elimination of nonessentials, standardization of parts and building units, the use of simple construction designs which call only for materials available in local lumber yards, and the use of methods of workmanship provided by local carpenters.

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Construction Cost Study of the Fort Wayne Housing Development

The study was conducted by the Fort Wayne Housing Development Authority, in cooperation with the U.S. Housing Administration, to determine the feasibility of constructing a new housing development in the Fort Wayne area. The study was completed in 1961 and is being presented to the public for their information.

The \$1,000 includes the cost of building the housing units plus planning, engineering and architectural fees. The study was conducted by the Fort Wayne Housing Development Authority, in cooperation with the U.S. Housing Administration, to determine the feasibility of constructing a new housing development in the Fort Wayne area. The study was completed in 1961 and is being presented to the public for their information.

In addition, the average monthly rent of \$10.85 per family in the Fort Wayne area is being compared to the average monthly rent of \$10.00 per family in the U.S. Housing Administration area. The study was completed in 1961 and is being presented to the public for their information.

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One Third Of State Employees Engaged In Highway Building, Maintenance Work

Highway construction and maintenance is the most extensive activity of state governments, according to information to the Council of State Governments from the U. S. Bureau of the Census. The proportion of state employees engaged in this work varies from 24 per cent in the West to more than 40 per cent in the South, and averages about one third in all states.

Because these figures do not include employees of contractors, the large variation may be due in part to differences in the extent to which private contractors construct highways in individual states.

Employees of state hospitals are the second largest group--20 per cent of the total--although a considerable part of this large percentage consists of low-paid trainees. Here again sharp regional contrasts are shown. In the more densely populated and wealthier northeastern states, the proportion of hospital employees to total employees is 31 per cent, while in southern and western regions only 12 per cent. The proportion for the north central states is about 20 per cent.

Public welfare and protective activities, including protection to person and property, charities, correctional institutions and recreational facilities, claim about 16 per cent of total state employees. Western states use the largest proportion of employees in this work--28 per cent, while the proportion varies from 13 to 15 per cent in other states.

Only about 10 per cent of the personnel of all 48 states is employed in general administrative, legislative or judicial capacities, according to the Council. Varying from state to state, the proportion generally is much higher in the West, comprising about 15 per cent of all employees of these states, in comparison with 10 and 8 per cent in northeastern and southern states respectively, and 6 per cent in north central states.

Extensive timbered areas in the South and West account for the comparatively large numbers of employees engaged in development and conservation of natural resources in these states. Ten per cent of all state employees in the South and 7 per cent in the West do work of this nature, while the proportions are 3 and 4 per cent in northeastern and north central states.

Unemployment compensation, one of the most important functions undertaken by state governments, engages another 6 per cent of all state employees, with little variation in proportions in all the states.

These six main groups account for 92 per cent of all state employees. The remainder perform a wide variety of services connected with health and sanitation, education, libraries, and miscellaneous general governmental functions and public service enterprises.

Twenty construction and maintenance is the most extensive activity of the governments, according to information to the Council of State Government from the U. S. Bureau of the Census. The proportion of state employees engaged in this work varies from 24 per cent in the West to more than 40 per cent in the South, and averages one third in all states.

Because these figures do not include employees of corporations, the figures may be due in part to differences in the extent to which private corporations employ employees in individual states.

Employees of state hospitals are the second largest group--40 per cent of the total--although a considerable part of this is the percentage consists of low-paid employees. In wealthier northeastern states, the proportion of hospital employees to all employees is 31 per cent, while in southern and western regions only 12 per cent. The proportion for the north central states is about 20 per cent.

Public welfare and protective activities, including provision for persons of property, charities, correctional institutions and recreational facilities, also are important. The proportion of these activities varies from 10 per cent in other states.

Only about 10 per cent of the personnel of all the states is employed in judicial administrative, legislative or judicial capacities, according to the Council. About 15 per cent of all employees of these classes, in comparison with 10 per cent in northeastern and southern states respectively, and 6 per cent in

Extensive timbered areas in the South and West account for the comparatively large numbers of employees engaged in development and conservation of natural resources in these states. Ten per cent of all state employees in the South and 7 per cent in the West do work of this nature, while the proportions are 3 and 4 per cent in the North and North central states.

Employees another 6 per cent in all the states.

Motor Vehicles Exempt From Property Tax In 18 States

Motor vehicles are exempt from the general property tax in 18 states, subject to a special ad valorem tax in lieu of the general property tax in seven states, and subject to the general property tax in 22 states, information from the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers said today.

The supreme court of Arizona--the 48th state--last spring invalidated the state's special tax on motor vehicles. Whether the state will revert to the special tax or will levy on motor vehicles under the general property tax system will be decided by a vote on two constitutional amendments November 5.

Louisiana, alone among the 18 states freeing motor vehicles from both special ad valorem and general property taxes, has exempted such vehicles from state, parish and special district taxes, but not from municipal taxes unless the local governing body approves by resolution or ordinance.

Motor vehicles are exempted along with all other tangible personal property in three of the 18 states--Delaware, New York and Pennsylvania. Fourteen other states, besides Louisiana, specifically exempt motor vehicles from personal property taxation: Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Vermont and Wisconsin.

Motor vehicle owners have to pay increased registration fees or gasoline taxes or both instead of the property tax in these 18 states. The increase occurred immediately after the exemptions in all states but Louisiana, which, however, raised its gasoline tax from 5 to 7 cents a gallon within two years.

Special ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles in lieu of the general property tax are now imposed by New Hampshire, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Washington and Wyoming. New Hampshire was the only state before 1928 to levy such a tax. The Washington tax is levied on private passenger cars only, while trucks are taxed as other general property.

Seven of the 22 states which still tax motor vehicles under the general system of property taxes require payment of the vehicle tax, or security for it, before license tags will be issued. The states imposing special ad valorem taxes all have some such requirement. Some of the other states have also adopted devices to make assessment and collection more effective--suspending registration upon failure to pay the property tax, furnishing assessors with registration lists, and standardizing appraisal methods.

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Taxation - Exemption
Business Tax

States Rule On Defense Contract Taxation

The states' right to tax motor fuels used by "cost-plus" contractors on national defense business has been upheld by attorneys-general of three states--- Indiana, Virginia and Iowa---and rejected by South Dakota's attorney-general, the National Association of Attorneys-General said today.

The South Dakota opinion held that the cost-plus contractor---one who contracts to do a job for the cost plus a fixed fee---bears a closer relationship to the federal government than that of a mere contractor, and is possibly an agent. If required to pay the tax, the contractor would bill the government for the item, said the opinion.

Opinions upholding the tax said the contractors, cost-plus feature notwithstanding, are not instrumentalities or agents of the federal government and no basis exists for exemption. The effect of the tax on the federal government is too remote to constitute a burden, said the Indiana ruling.

* * *

"Pretrial" Court Saves Chicago \$12,000 In Month's Operation

The first month's operation of Chicago's "pretrial" court has saved the city treasury at least \$12,000, the American Municipal Association said today. The court was created to speed justice, and save costs for both litigants and taxpayers in cases involving small damage suits, broken contracts and unpaid wages.

Under the pretrial court system, litigants are called into conference before their cases come to trial to see if the issues can be settled through conciliation and agreement. Municipal Judge Oscar S. Caplan, who presides over the unusual court, said about 31 per cent of the 2,250 cases called have been disposed of, and that action has been taken on all but 479 of the cases.

The Association said the practice of calling cases in advance of trial for the settlement of issues has been of great aid in Cincinnati, Detroit and Los Angeles in bringing about settlements, and in stabilizing dockets so judges may be kept busy trying cases that deserve and are ready for trial.

* * *

The attorney's right to tax motor fuels used by "contractors" continues on

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so remote to constitute a burden, said the majority.

"Court Saves Chicago \$12,000 in Motor Fuel Taxation"

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city treasury at least \$12,000, the American Municipal Association said today. The

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Under the pretax court system, litigants are called into conference

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action and agreement. Municipal Judge Oscar E. Garland, who presides over the

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OCT 24 1940

Assessor-Navy Cooperation Makes 50,000 Small Boats Available For Emergency

Should armed forces of the United States ever need emergency assistance in waters off California's 1,000-mile coast line, the Los Angeles and San Francisco county assessors' offices are prepared to locate within 24 hours thousands of small craft, their owners and crews for emergency service.

The system making this possible resulted from cooperation between assessors of nearly all California coastal counties and small-boat experts of the U. S. Navy. Working together, they set up cross-indexed master files giving up to 1,000 detailed specifications of more than 50,000 craft in the 11th (Southern California) and 12th (Northern California) naval districts.

The Los Angeles county assessor's office adopted the system in 1933 primarily to obtain more complete information on small boats for tax purposes, but designed it intentionally for use by the Navy in event of a national emergency, according to information today from the National Association of Assessing Officers.

The assessor's office realized there were no detailed records anywhere indexed in a manner making small boats available immediately for emergency use by our armed forces, the Association said.

Through cooperation with assessors of San Diego and other Southern California counties, the Los Angeles county assessor's office carries the master file on all boats and vessels in the 11th Naval district. Under this arrangement, the Los Angeles office can locate any boat in the district by any name, number or owner it ever had; by its radio call, signal letters, or state fish and game license; and by characteristics such as size, speed, cruising radius, carrying capacity, cost and market value.

Records were adapted to machine punch cards, so that the assessor by a mechanical operation could pick out all boats conforming to any of 1,000 specifications. Records include the boat's harbor, the owner's residence and business addresses and telephone numbers, the telephone number of the master if the boat has one, the landing or berth telephone, and radio call letters---giving 24-hour service in locating boats, owners and crews.

The system already has proved valuable in two major tests. The master file supplied the Major Disaster committee of Los Angeles county during a recent flood with information on all available small boats suitable for evacuating persons stranded in their homes; and information supplied the coast guard was valuable in locating many boats reported lost after a severe storm, and in locating persons aboard boats forced to make harbor at coastal islands during the storm.

The Los Angeles county system was adopted in the 11th district by San Diego, Orange, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. San Francisco and 11 other "Bay area" counties in the 12th district installed a similar system recently with assistance of the U. S. Navy. The master file is kept in San Francisco.

The value of these records in a national emergency could be illustrated by efforts of British authorities to obtain small boats to remove British and French forces from Dunkirk, the Association said. The Small Vessels Pool department of the British navy had made a register of all motor yachts and boats in the country only a few days before they were needed.

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Juvenile Delinquency *Circle 20*

Juvenile Programs Reduce Delinquency As Much As 75 Per Cent In American Cities

Juvenile delinquency and crime have been cut as much as 75 per cent by correction and education programs designed and operated in American cities by their police departments, courts, social agencies and other groups. These programs are operated by the organizations individually or collectively and show a definite trend toward education for crime prevention.

These facts were brought out today in a preliminary report on existing facilities for prevention of delinquency and rehabilitation of delinquents by the Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Crime Prevention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, assisted by the Juvenile Aid bureau of the New York City police department.

Of 189 cities reporting on juvenile delinquency to the committee, 150 have prevention programs, six are planning them, and 33 have none. The reports, according to the committee, emphasize the following:

1---Group treatment, through the medium of recreation, is of definite value in prevention of delinquency, and in rehabilitation. Public and private recreation activities and facilities have been sponsored and increased, and the need for corrective leisure-time activities established.

2---Individual treatment is receiving attention; and police departments, the courts and other public departments of the city and state, and private agencies are attempting to adjust situations without recourse to arrest and conviction.

The juvenile delinquency programs were classed by the committee as to type and extent of usage by reporting cities. Of the six types of programs listed, 56 cities use the one in which their courts work in cooperation with probation departments. In 40 cities, juvenile programs are operated by police departments alone. Both types of programs have reduced juvenile delinquency from 5 to 65 per cent.

Police department programs carried out in collaboration with juvenile courts and probation departments are in effect in 24 of the reporting cities, according to the report, while programs sponsored by private agencies alone are used in 17 cities.

Three cities fight juvenile delinquency through programs conducted by city departments of education, while in the remaining 10 cities the programs are carried on by miscellaneous city, county and state agencies.

Although cities have placed the direction of their juvenile delinquency programs under specific departments or institutions, most of the programs are operated with the cooperation of several or many social agencies interested in this phase of youth work.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story may be used Oct. 29 as a supplement to Release No. 2 on juvenile delinquency, or as a separate story Oct. 30).

Success of municipal juvenile delinquency programs, whether they are administered by public or private agencies, hinges to a great degree on the extent of cooperation received from many other agencies, the report of the Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Crime Prevention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

Such cooperation resulted in lowering juvenile delinquency and crime rates as much as 75 per cent in 150 American cities whose programs were studied by the committee. In analyzing the programs, the committee placed them in six groups according to outstanding administrative and activity characteristics. About the same kinds of organizations cooperate in these groups, but to varying degrees.

In a group of 40 cities whose programs are administered by police departments alone, and in the other groups also, many social and recreation agencies cooperate, especially in case work, supervised play and summer camp placements. Police departments sponsor Boy Scout troupes and boys' clubs in many cities; and are represented in most cities on coordinating councils representing schools, courts, churches and private groups which develop juvenile programs and remedial treatment plans.

In the 24 cities where juvenile programs are administered cooperatively by police departments, juvenile courts and probation officers, emphasis is placed on supervision and probation work. Efforts are made also to place juveniles in foster homes and in CCC camps. Army enlistments also are considered helpful in improving conditions.

Particular attention is paid to the social and economic background of delinquents in juvenile programs of the 56 cities where courts and juvenile probation bureaus administer the program. In most of these cities the courts operate as a rehabilitation agency, working with the child after arrest and often after conviction.

Emphasis is placed on individual and, to some extent, group treatment in the 17 cities where juvenile programs are conducted by private agencies. Especial effort also is made to provide recreational facilities and camp placements.

Both individual and group treatment are stressed in the three cities where juvenile programs are under the direction of local boards of education, with active assistance from the police department. In one of these cities the court takes action, permitted by the state welfare act, against parents who fail in their parental duties.

In the 10 cities of the sixth group, juvenile delinquency prevention and rehabilitation bureaus are operated by various city, county and state agencies not mentioned previously.

Whether public or private agencies direct the programs, funds are secured from many sources---local governmental appropriations, public subscription, community chests, membership dues, and police and private shows and games.

NOTE: This story may be used Oct. 22 as a supplement to
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participation by the state welfare act, against parents who fail in their parental duties.
In the 10 cities of the sixth group, juvenile delinquency prevention and
treatment are stressed, with a strong emphasis on the prevention of juvenile
delinquency.

28 States Authorize Investigations Before Child Adoptions

Laws of 28 states authorize investigation by social agencies---of either state welfare departments or the courts---before children may be adopted, information from the American Public Welfare Association showed today. The laws were enacted not only to assure the future of an adopted child, but to protect foster parents.

Courts must arrange for the investigation in 12 states---Arizona, Delaware, Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin; state welfare departments must make the arrangements in 12 other states---Alabama, Arkansas, California, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon and Rhode Island. The judge may waive the investigation in Minnesota, North Dakota and Oregon.

In the other four states---Maine, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Washington---an investigation may be held at the court's discretion. In five of the 28 states---California, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Rhode Island---an investigation is not required if the adoption is sponsored by an authorized agency.

A residence period in the home before adoption is required by 24 states, with Kentucky's three-month period the shortest. Residence periods of six months are required by 14 states---Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North and South Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, Texas, Wisconsin and Wyoming. The residence period may be waived by the court in all but four of these states. In New Mexico the court must hold a hearing with representation from the state welfare department before the residence period can be waived.

One year's residence, during which the child is supervised by the state welfare department or the court, is required in seven states---Alabama, Arizona, Delaware, Kansas, Louisiana, North Carolina and Virginia. In Maine and New Jersey the court may at its discretion require the year residence period, in Maine under the supervision of an agency. The period may be reduced to six months in New Jersey if for the best interests of the child. In Vermont the adoption is not complete until one year after the petition is filed; during this time the case is held open by the court.

Specific authority is given state welfare departments of Alabama, California, Delaware, Kentucky, Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin to consent to the adoption of a child who has no parent or guardian; and to either the state welfare department or an agency in New Jersey and Ohio.

Adoption laws of only three states---Kentucky, Louisiana and Wisconsin---stipulate clearly that consent of the parent is necessary in all adoption cases unless parental rights have been terminated definitely by previous action of the court.

Adoption courts in some states have authority to permit an adoption without parental consent under such conditions as abandonment, incompetency, unfitness, loss of civil rights, and loss of custody through divorce.

It is estimated that about 16,000 children are adopted annually, according to the Association. The children involved usually are white, there is a slight preponderance of girls, and about three-fifths of the children are born out of wedlock according to a recent study of adoption cases in nine states by the Children's bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor.

State Employes Average \$108 Monthly Earnings

The average earnings of state employes for the nation as a whole are \$108 a month, figures to the Council of State Governments from the U. S. Bureau of the Census show. Employes of western and northeastern states earn the relatively high sum of \$120 a month, while earnings of state employes in the north central and southern states are \$107 and \$94 respectively.

It should be noted that in the computation of these averages part-time employment is given the same weight as full-time; consequently the "average" is, in many cases, lower than it would be if based only on compensation of full-time workers. Averages are based on January, 1940, earnings.

The earnings vary widely among different functions, with higher averages reported for general administrative, legislative and judicial employes ranging from \$185 a month in the northeastern states down to \$148 for western states. The average for this group of functions throughout the country is \$162.

Lower earnings per employe are reported for state highway, hospital and charities workers. It was pointed out that highway and hospital employes account for more than 50 per cent of all state employes. Western states report highest average earnings of \$133 a month for highway and \$98 a month for hospital workers. Northeastern states stand next in rank with \$105 and \$78 respectively. North central states pay \$93 and \$77 per employe for corresponding services, and southern states stand lowest with averages of \$87 per highway worker and \$56 per hospital employe.

The average earnings of employes engaged in operation of state charities vary from region to region in almost reverse order, the western states paying the lowest amount, \$88; north central states, \$95; southern states, \$100; and northeastern states, \$137. Differences in administration of relief funds and in the division of responsibility between state and local governments influence the averages greatly, the Council said.

The average earnings of state employees for the nation as a whole are \$7.88

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of \$12.00 a month, while earnings of state employees in the north central and

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orted for general administrative, legislative and judicial employees ranging from

a month in the northeastern states down to \$1.66 for western states. The average

in this group of functions throughout the country is \$1.62.

Lower earnings per employee are reported for state highway, hospital and

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Personnel, Public - Selection

"Preferred" Personnel List Helps Solve Seasonal Employment Problems

The California state government is selecting its part-time seasonal employees through civil service procedures under a system permitting each department to give preference to workers whose service has been satisfactory in previous years, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada said today.

The State Personnel Board has set up "preferred, limited term" lists of civil service employees whose work has been recommended by their departments. Under a recent amendment of the Board regulations, a department seeking part-time seasonal employees may give first consideration to its former workers.

The position of candidates on the preferred lists is determined by examination scores. The preferred lists, however, are not used to fill permanent positions, or by any department other than the one in which the eligibles have worked.

* * *

Income

New York, Federal Income Tax Form Filled Out At Same Time Under New System

New York employers now may fill out slips reporting salaries of their employees simply by making a carbon copy of the federal form under a new state program to decrease the number of forms the taxpayer must fill out, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

In setting up the new system, "information at the source" returns for the 1940 personal income tax were redesigned to conform exactly with the similar federal form. By making the size of the paper the same, requiring the same information, and ruling the state form in the same manner as the federal form, the state enables the businessman to fill out both forms at once by the use of carbon paper.

The revision of the state form was made this year in response to suggestions of employers of many workers.

* * *

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JOINT REFERENCE

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Candidates' Expense Accounts Governed By Regulation In 46 States

Expenditures in campaigns for state office are regulated by special "corrupt practice acts" in all states with the exception of Illinois and Rhode Island, a study by the Illinois Legislative Council showed today.

Illinois, however, does have legislation prohibiting such practices as bribery, and the promise by a candidate to any person or corporation to perform or refrain from any official act, according to the study, as noted by the Council of State Governments.

The requirement that statements of campaign receipts and disbursements be filed, and thus thrown open to publicity, is the only restraint upon the size of campaign funds in seven states---Delaware, Georgia, Maine, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont and Washington.

Other states which have corrupt practices acts have some limitation upon the amounts that may be expended, most commonly a fixed sum specified for various offices or a percentage of the salary attached to the office sought. In a few instances the limitation is based on the number of votes cast at the last preceding election.

In New Jersey, the maximum expenditure allowed a gubernatorial candidate is \$50,000 in the primary and a similar amount in the general election. Wisconsin, on the other hand, allows only \$4,000 to be spent in the primary campaign by or on behalf of a candidate for governor and half that amount in the campaign for the general election.

Widely differing rules are also found in the states basing limitations on votes cast or a percentage of salary. In Connecticut, candidates for any office except the United States Senate may spend \$10 in the primary and \$15 in the general election for each 1,000 votes cast for the office at the preceding election. In Indiana, candidates in any election may spend, in addition to personal expenses, \$25 for each 1,000 votes up to 50,000, \$10 per 1,000 for the next 50,000 votes, and \$5 for each 1,000 votes in excess of 100,000. Limitations expressed as a percentage of the salary attached to the office are 10 per cent of the first year's salary for the primary or general election in Kansas and 50 per cent in Iowa and South Dakota.

In about one-third of the states the limitation extends only to the expenditure made by the candidate, the study said, while other states limit the amount spent on behalf of the candidate as well. The limitation often does not include the personal expenses of the candidate. In Nebraska personal expenses are defined to include payments for travel, subsistence, stationery, postage, letters, circulars, telegraph, telephone, and newspaper advertising.

Only two states, Massachusetts and Nebraska, place a specific limitation upon the amount which individuals may contribute to a campaign fund. All but nine of the 46 states forbid contributions by certain types of corporations.

Libraries Receive Demands For Defense Books

Public libraries, especially some located in defense industry centers, are experiencing increased demands for books relating to national defense and the specific skills required in strategic industries, the International City Managers' Association said today.

These libraries, the Association said, are devoting a portion of current revenue to the purchase of such books. One, the Library Association of Portland, Ore., said its department had received additional funds for their purchase.

City-wide publicity in shops, schools, radio and newspapers brought crowds to the Rochester, N.Y., public library to examine an exhibit of 400 books and 50 magazines on industry in the defense program. The library says it has purchased every book published since June, 1940, on airplanes, automobiles, building, industrial chemistry, industrial design and architecture, management in industry, mechanical drawing, modern warfare, optics and instruments, power, printing, radio and television, and shop practice.

Circulation of books on the trades related to defense has increased fourfold since 1938, the Paterson, N.J., free public library said, while the Birmingham, Ala., public library notes increased circulation of books on machine shop work, structural drafting, airplane mechanics, and military and naval art and science.

The Mason City, Ia., public library has doubled the amount spent a year ago for books pertinent to defense, especially for aviation and welding books and for those relating to mechanical skills. The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh last summer allotted its undistributed reserve of \$2,000 to the purchase of technical books to meet increased demands. The public library of Kansas City, Mo., reports circulation of defense books has doubled and expenditures for such books increased in about the same proportion as their publication.

Books on ship building, aviation, navigation, and army and navy manuals are being purchased by the San Francisco public library. Many requests each day are made upon the Wichita, Kan., city library by men preparing for employment or employed in airplane factories and by student pilots. That library also reports calls for material on welding, sheet metal work, mechanics and tool making, and says that it needs at least \$2,000 for defense requirements. The Omaha, Neb., public library has purchased all the late publications on defense listed by the American Library Association but says that its supply is still inadequate to satisfy its patrons.

Louisville, Ky., readers have concentrated on background books relating to Europe as well as on technical books, the free public library there says. Other libraries reporting increased demands for defense books are in Baltimore, Md.; New Haven, Conn.; Akron, O.; Youngstown, O.; Knoxville, Tenn.; and Morristown, N.J. These libraries were among those which recently reported increased defense needs to the United States Office of Education.

Tax Sales

Plan For Tax-Delinquent Land Sales Brings Winston-Salem \$76,952

Sale of 169 tax-foreclosed properties for \$76,952 has resulted from the operation by Winston-Salem, N.C., of a new plan for disposal of such lands, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada reported today.

Building permits totaling \$125,840 have been issued for improvements on the properties, and future income to the city from taxes on the re-sold properties will amount to about \$3,000 a year.

Winston-Salem owned about 2,000 parcels of tax-foreclosed land in June, 1939, when a new real estate committee was appointed and the present land disposal plan worked out. The plan has been in effect since September of last year, and operates as follows:

The city keeps a duplicate set of tax maps which are used as city property maps, and on which are recorded in color all city-owned property. After the city receives the deed to tax-foreclosed property, the building inspector determines whether the building should be demolished, or what repairs are needed. Each lot is checked also to see if it may be needed in the future for public improvement projects. Large tracts of land or groups of lots are studied for possible community park sites.

All city-owned property not wanted for governmental purposes is listed for sale with the Winston-Salem real estate board, which receives established rates for disposing of the land. An independent appraisal committee is appointed and paid a nominal fee for each parcel appraised.

Each lot is cleaned, surveyed and marked off; and attractive financial terms are offered to purchasers. Before any property is sold, however, the former owner is given an opportunity to repossess it through payment of back taxes.

When properties are ready to be sold, descriptions are distributed to the city's realtors. When an offer for a piece of property is received, the property is placed on auction, and if no better bid is made it goes to the original bidder.

In cases where land titles may be considered defective because the former owner could not be served legal notice of foreclosure, the lots when sold are registered under the "Torrens system," by which the title is guaranteed by the state.

For the purpose of the sale of the property, the City of Winston-Salem, N.C., has adopted the following plan for disposal of such lands, the

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New Chicago Playground System May Cut Juvenile Delinquency In Half

After 14 years of fighting juvenile delinquency, a Chicago police lieutenant has worked out a playground plan which he believes will cut juvenile delinquency and crime rates by one-half, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today.

As a result of observations and experiments by Lieut. Harry Costello, head of the Chicago Crime Prevention Bureau, the Chicago Police Athletic League for Juveniles will be set up. The plan calls for the establishment of "play spots" throughout the city, each under the supervision of young policemen able to teach physical education. Funds for equipping the playgrounds will be obtained through donations from public spirited citizens and organizations.

Lieut. Costello said boys' clubs, the Catholic Youth Organization, Off-The-Street-Club, Boys Brotherhood Republic and similar groups obtain excellent results, "but there still are too many 'cop haters' among underprivileged youngsters."

Preliminary plans call for three playgrounds, with additional ones in the future. Baseball, football and basketball teams will be developed to compete in the league, and championship teams will compete with similar teams in other cities.

Lieut. Costello said he has learned from his work that 90 per cent of the young delinquents can be turned from paths of crime with proper guidance; there is a bit of larceny in almost every child; nobody can talk reform to a boy who is hungry and poor; prosecution is a poor method to reduce juvenile crime and should be supplanted by prevention and correction; and every police officer should be given a course in handling children.

Lieut. Costello said his bureau received 11,549 juvenile cases last year. The bureau adjusted 10,007 cases, and only 1,542 of the delinquents were called before a judge. Of these, 335 were committed to institutions and the rest placed on probation.

As a result of observations and experiments by Lieut. Henry Costello, head

of the Chicago Crime Prevention Bureau, the Chicago Police Athletic League for

boys will be set up. The plan calls for the establishment of "play spots"

throughout the city, each under the supervision of young policemen who are

physical education. Funds for equipping the playgrounds will be obtained through

contributions from public spirited citizens and organizations.

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and Girl Scouts, Boys Brotherhood Republic and similar groups obtain excellent results,

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working children.

Lieut. Costello said his bureau received 11,249 juvenile cases last year.

Five Cities, Three States Charge For Police Radio Service

At least five cities and three states operating police radio systems charge for radio messages transmitted to police cars of other cities and suburbs which do not operate their own transmitters, the International City Managers' Association said today. The cities are Cleveland, Detroit, Toledo, Akron and Providence; the states are Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

Cleveland charges East Cleveland 42 cents for each call transmitted to East Cleveland police cars. East Detroit pays Detroit 35 cents a call; the sheriff's office of Lucas county, O., pays Toledo 50 cents a call, with a minimum cost of \$25 a month; and Akron charges 35 cents per message transmitted to Barberton, Cuyahoga Falls, and the sheriff's office of Summit county. Providence makes charges on calls to police cars of several surrounding communities.

Communities served by the Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Jersey state police radio systems are charged certain percentages of operating costs.

* * *

States Divide On Taxation Of Cost-Plus Contracts

The national defense program has focused attention upon the question whether the states may tax gasoline used by contractors holding cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contracts with the federal government, and tax administrators or attorneys-general of 20 states have ruled so far on the question.

The chief point of difference in the rulings is in the view taken of the contractor's status, according to the North American Gasoline Tax Conference. Twelve states, holding that the maker of such a contract is an independent contractor rather than an agent of the federal government, say the tax is payable. These states are: Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island, West Virginia and Virginia.

Seven states---Delaware, Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin---have ruled such sales non-taxable. The Wisconsin ruling applies to sales of gasoline over \$500.

Massachusetts has ruled that refunds may be obtained only if the gasoline is used for non-taxable purposes, such as the operation of contractors' equipment on the project, or for the exclusive use of the federal government.

The North American Gasoline Tax Conference is a constituent organization of the Federation of Tax Administrators.

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Journal of Public Administration

Governors Get Increased Administrative Powers Through Reorganization

A definite trend toward expansion of governors' administrative authority is shown by an analysis of governmental reorganizations in 10 states during the last decade. The reorganizations consolidated many small agencies into fewer large departments, and provided for the appointment rather than the election of many important state officials with removal powers vested in the governors.

Increases in powers of the chief executives resulted from additional legal authority conferred upon the governor himself, and from more adequate means for making his authority effective, according to the analysis, made for the Council of State Governments by Leonard D. White and M. Harvey Sherman of the department of political science, University of Chicago.

"Harassing problems of the depression magnified responsibilities and influence of the governor's office," White and Sherman said in their analysis. "Not only has he been the central figure in the midst of tremendous pressures for relief and against taxation; he has been the principal representative of the state in dealing with federal authorities for relief, security, public works, and other fields."

Reorganizations were accomplished by statute rather than constitutional amendment in all 10 states---Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin. These states brought to 27 the states which have reorganized since Illinois started the movement in 1917. Besides the reorganizations since 1930, four states made extensive revisions of original plans set up before 1930.

Several states during the decade gave their governors almost unlimited removal power with respect to appointees, whether or not they were confirmed by the senate. Two states---Indiana and Wisconsin---permitted the governor to make broad reorganizations by executive order, while limited powers of reorganization were given governors of Colorado and Louisiana.

One of the most "significant" trends during the last decade, according to the analysis, was the consolidation of various institutional and control functions into a single managerial agency, effected in eight of the 10 states. Since none of the reorganizations was brought about by constitutional amendment, however, the status of constitutionally-elected officials remained practically unchanged; in the eight states one or more of the newly consolidated departments were headed by an elective official. Despite this, according to the analysis, there was a definite movement toward appointment rather than election as a method of selection for statutory officials.

(MORE)

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Another significant trend has been toward the "executive budget"---one which centers full responsibility for preparation of the budget on the governor, either personally or through an agency responsible to him. In 1930, the budgets of 33 states were prepared by the executives, 10 by administrative boards, four by legislative-administrative boards, and one by the legislature. Forty states had executive budgets by 1940.

An expansion of administrative control over expenditures, with the power to examine vouchers, bills and claims before payment---commonly known as the preaudit, was shown by the analysis. The preaudit is practiced in some form in every state, although in only 15 states is the function in the hands of an administrative official appointed by and responsible to the governor. Of the 15 states, nine have authorized this function since 1930.

The power to determine the wisdom and expediency of expenditures is a form of preaudit which began in Illinois in 1917. The governors of 10 states had this power by 1930, and seven states adopted similar legal provisions since then. At least 10 other states claim to have given this power on the basis of general budgetary authority.

An unprecedented increase in the number of states which have authorized an administrative body to decrease or suspend expenditures regardless of the stipulated appropriations enacted by their legislatures has occurred during the last 10 years, according to the analysis. Only one state---Ohio in 1927---granted this power prior to 1929. Since then 24 other states have given this authority. Four additional states are not included among the 24, although in effect they authorized reductions in expenditures either by permitting the suspension of governmental functions or by requiring that reserves be set aside. The authority for making actual reductions lies in the hands of the governor or an officer or agency responsible to him in 18 states, while in four the governor must have the approval of a second body. In three states the governor is a member of the agency.

The number of states authorizing an administrative body to transfer funds from one item in an appropriation act to another increased from 23 in 1930 to 35 in 1940. The governor or an officer responsible to him exercises the transfer power in 22 of the states, while in 10 states the power has been placed in the hands of a board of which the governor is a member. In three states the governor and a council exercise joint control.

Prior to 1930, nine states had adopted statutes enabling an administrative body to require each agency to spend only a certain part of its annual appropriation each month. This number was increased to 31 during the last 10 years. In 26 of the states the authority has been granted to the governor or a fiscal agent responsible to him. The other five states have made the governor and another agency jointly responsible or have utilized agencies not responsible directly to him.

...the Government is not responsible directly to him.

The number of states authorizing an administrative body to transfer funds from one item in an appropriation act to another increased from 23 in 1880 to 37 in 1900. The governor or an officer responsible to him exercises the transfer power in 23 of the states, while in 15 states the power has been placed in the hands of a board or board of directors. In 12 states the power is vested in a board of directors, and in 10 states the power is vested in a board of directors.

...the Government is not responsible directly to him.

The Government is not responsible directly to him.

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Increased Authority Of State Police Departments Shown By Study

Steady expansion of state police authority during the last few years, with the departments of 36 states now possessing broad powers to enforce all criminal law, was reported today by the Safety division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The other 12 state police departments are restricted to the enforcement of motor vehicle and highway regulations.

Despite the authority given the 36 state police agencies, certain limitations have been set up. Usually their jurisdiction is limited to areas outside city limits except under unusual circumstances---as pursuing a criminal, or acting upon request of city officials or order of a governor. State police usually may not be employed in industrial disputes, and are prohibited from serving civil writs.

It is now agreed generally that state policing is an executive function with responsibility in the hands of the governor, according to the report. However, only 24 state police departments are under his direct executive control. Fourteen departments are controlled by officials indirectly responsible to the governor, and 10 are supervised by and responsible to independent boards or commissions.

About two-thirds of the state police agencies have attained the status of departments of the state government, according to the report, the remainder functioning as bureaus or subdivisions of other departments. Departmental budget requirements range from \$50,000 a year to \$4,500,000---this latter figure appropriated to the Pennsylvania state police force. Both New York and California state police agencies have budgets in excess of \$2,500,000. Six departments receive less than \$150,000 annually; 10 between \$150,000 and \$300,000; 12 between \$300,000 and \$500,000; 11 between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000; and three between \$1,000,000 and \$2,500,000.

Examinations of the budgets show that 60.5 per cent is allocated for salaries, the remainder for maintenance and operation. The average state expenditure for state police departments is \$24, with the largest \$86 and the smallest \$7.80.

Differences in financial resources, road mileages, population density, geographic areas, and attitudes toward state law enforcement are among factors which have influenced personnel strengths of the various state police agencies, which range from 14 members in South Dakota to 1,595 in Pennsylvania. Six departments employ less than 50 persons; 10 between 50 and 100; 15 between 100 and 200; five between 200 and 300; five between 300 and 500; three between 500 and 1,000; and three between 1,000 and 2,000.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

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More Cities Rule On Status Of Military Service Employees

A steadily increasing number of cities and states are amending their personnel policies to protect the status of their employees called to defense training, the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada said today.

The state of Michigan and eight cities---Columbus, O.; Detroit, Flint, Mich.; Evanston, Ill.; Los Angeles; St. Petersburg; Akron and Seattle---are among those that most recently have adopted measures affecting regular employees called for training, persons eligible for jobs, and substitutes for regular employees.

All grant leaves to employees called, but only Evanston provides for supplementary pay. Employees with at least three months service with Evanston get leave and, for the first three months of training, they receive the difference between military and city pay, the difference not to exceed \$150 a month.

Various rights, benefits and privileges---such as promotion, retirement, vacation and sick leave---are protected by the rulings of Detroit, Evanston, Akron, St. Petersburg and Seattle.

Employees discharged from military service must make application for reinstatement within 40 days in the state of Michigan, 60 days for regular army men and five days for National Guardsmen in St. Petersburg, and 90 days in Los Angeles.

Adopted policies reflect the intention to restore trainees to their old jobs or, if those have been abolished, to similar jobs, the Assembly said. St. Petersburg stipulated competency on return and honorable discharge; the state of Michigan, honorable discharge. The Flint compulsory reinstatement measure contained the proviso that, in case of injury, trainees would receive positions equal to their capacity.

Ruling on persons on eligible lists called into service, Columbus held they would retain their positions on the list and, if a new list is created, the same relative positions as on the old list. They will be eligible within 30 days after discharge for certification to jobs and will continue to be eligible for two years unless they elect to take an intervening examination.

Detroit eligibles who are called to service and inform the civil service commission within 45 days after induction will, on their return, be considered appointed if they have been reached on the eligible list. They must indicate they want jobs within 30 days after discharge. In Michigan, eligibles for state jobs called to duty may within 60 days have their names suspended for the duration of service and reentered in the appropriate place after honorable discharge.

Temporary employees taking the place of war service employees in Detroit receive no right to permanent tenure, nor do they in Flint unless a vacancy occurs in the same classification, in which case they will be given permanent status. In St. Petersburg, no temporary employees may retain the jobs they filled. If any regular employees have been promoted to fill positions of those on leave, they will return to their original jobs.

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States Regulate Credit To Retail Liquor Dealers

Liquor wholesalers and manufacturers must conform to restrictions placed by 18 states and the District of Columbia on the length of time they may give retailers to pay for alcoholic beverages, information to the Council of State Governments showed today.

Time limits on credit either duplicate or are more or less stringent than the federal government's 30-day credit limit. They are intended to prevent wholesalers, manufacturers and distillers from using credit to reduce competition and obtaining undue control over retail outlets, and also to make more enforceable restrictions found in most states on retailers' extension of credit to consumers, according to a survey by the Illinois Legislative Council.

Three states---Arizona, Arkansas and Kentucky---require cash sales and Indiana, South Carolina and Tennessee provide for maximum credit terms of 10 or 15 days. In Georgia, credit may be extended until Thursday of the week following the purchase, while in New York and the District of Columbia credit terms may be extended, respectively, to the 10th and 15th of the following month. Seven states---Colorado, Connecticut, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico and Rhode Island---set 30 days as the maximum credit period.

Under the laws of Illinois, Massachusetts and Nebraska, credit of 90 days duration may be offered to retailers. The federal rule of 30 days maximum credit applies in these states to interstate sales from wholesalers to retailers and to such intrastate sales as, without such regulation, would adversely affect interstate commerce.

In the 10 other states which permit liquor sales by private dealers and have no specific restriction upon credit to retailers, the federal regulation is the only governmental limitation. In 16 other states retail establishments are operated by the states as a monopoly and in one state, Wyoming, the wholesale business is operated by the state while retailing is in private hands. Kansas, Mississippi and Oklahoma prohibit the sale of distilled spirits.

Liquor wholesalers and manufacturers must conform to regulations placed by
and the District of Columbia on the length of time they may give retailers
for alcoholic beverages, information to the Council of State Government is shown

Time limits on credit other than 30 days or less are prohibited from

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in most states on retailers' extension of credit to consumers, according to a
by the Illinois Legislative Council.

Alabama, South Carolina and Tennessee provide for maximum credit terms of 10 or 15
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to the 10th and 15th of the following month. Other states--Colorado,
Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico and Rhode Island--and 20 others

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1 Main Street - Chicago

Cities "Streamline" Annual Reports To Give Clearer Picture Of Activities

American cities are "streamlining" their annual reports to give citizens a clearer picture of municipal activities, services and expenditures, and to profit from criticism that their reports have been too statistical to be interesting and informative reading, the International City Managers' Association said today.

The efforts to improve this year's reports continue the trend of recent years toward a more interesting style and makeup through use of pictures, graphs and pictorial statistics, the Association said after a study of about 90 reports for 1940.

The most significant development is the organization of reports from the citizen's standpoint of services rather than the city's standpoint of department and division organization. Simple explanatory writeups, pictures and graphs are placed first in the reports, with detailed statistical studies relegated to the end, or omitted.

The use of comparative data to give a clearer picture of municipal activities appears to be increasing, the Association said. Cities with adequate record systems are able to make their statistics more meaningful by showing several years' figures for various activities, and by emphasizing developments and changes in each activity instead of merely reporting current figures.

Another development in 1940 is the use of simplified financial statements patterned after reports of many private corporations which explain just what each figure means in simple sentences understandable to the layman. In illustrating finances, the technique of comparing the cost of certain services with the purchase price of comparable items of merchandise was used for the first time this year. The annual per capita cost of recreation, for example, may be compared with the cost of a motion picture, or the cost of fire protection is compared with the cost of insurance.

Use of an introduction to annual reports giving highlights of municipal developments during the year is becoming more common, with the highlights usually printed opposite a list of important unfilled needs of the city.

Apparent in the study of 1940 reports is the increasing number describing activities of local governmental agencies that are more or less independent of the mayor or council. School systems, for example, are covered in several reports even though they are entirely independent. Likewise, planning agencies were included this year for the first time in several reports.

The trend toward omission of all but necessary statistics resulted in sharp reductions in the number of pages of many 1940 reports. Two Maine towns---Houlton and Rumford---included for the first time this year a large amount of textual material, pictures and graphs, eliminated much statistical matter, and reduced the size of their reports from 206 pages to 76 and 158 to 58 respectively. Many other cities report sizeable reductions by similar methods.

Centralized Purchasing Brings Savings To Five States

Centralized purchasing in five states---New York, Virginia, Missouri, Maryland and Massachusetts---has resulted in lower prices paid for state supplies and greater efficiency in purchasing departments, information from the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers indicated today.

Economy was effected in these states by standardization of departmental supplies and by competitive bidding, according to a study made by E. E. Naylor of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Some states also save by buying on contract or in bulk, the study indicated.

Most of these states have provisions for submission of estimates of needs from state departments, advertising, submission and opening of bids, award of contract, inspection of goods, and the submission and approval of invoices for payment.

A "noteworthy" practice followed by most states is that of awarding contracts for supplies to the lowest "responsible" bidder rather than to merely the lowest bidder. Public opening of bids prevails.

Each state has a bureau, division or department for centralized purchasing but all allow exceptions from this method of buying for certain types of commodities and materials purchased in certain amounts.

Purchases of prison-made goods, joint contracts involving labor and supplies, and telephone and electric light and power service are exempted from the central bureau's scrutiny in New York. Virginia's exemptions include supplies for the state highway commission and alcoholic beverage control board, automobile license number plates, perishable articles, and emergency purchases. Massachusetts allows exemptions of materials for legislative or military purposes.

In Missouri, emergency purchases of \$25 or less are exempted from central purchasing. Virginia exempts purchases under \$100. State agencies whose maintenance costs less than \$500 a year in New York are exempted from central purchasing, as are all purchases which total less than \$500 during a 60-day period, provided the items are not on the list of centralized contract items.

When open market purchases are permitted, they are controlled to a greater or lesser degree by the central purchasing agency in many of the states.

Survey Has One Satisfactory Result---To The Women, Anyway

It isn't news, particularly, that young folks drive faster than their elders, or that the majority of older drivers use older cars, but the women might get a lot of satisfaction upon learning that men are the faster drivers.

This was shown today in an analysis of a study by the Yale university Institute of Human Relations of the habits of automobile operators in Connecticut, as reported by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Other results:

Drivers with passengers to whom they are not related drive faster than drivers with passengers related to them;

Non-owners, especially younger persons, drive slightly faster than owners;

Newer vehicles are driven more miles each year and are involved in more accidents than older cars;

Drivers traveling faster than 50 miles an hour are involved in more accidents and traffic violations than drivers traveling 35 to 45 miles an hour;

Drivers on long trips travel faster than drivers on short trips;

Men between 30 and 40 years of age travel more miles each year than older or younger drivers.

* * *

Personnel, Public Examinations

Cartoons Relieve Tension Before Los Angeles Civil Service Examination

To relieve tension before applicants commenced an examination for police and fire department promotions recently, the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission passed out examination booklets with cartoons printed on the back.

Chuckles and laughter dispelled the feeling of tenseness without interrupting examination proceedings, according to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada.

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of Human Relations of the habits of and accident patterns in a small town, a

led by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which reported

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Newer vehicles are driven more miles each year and are driven 2 to 3 years

the more often

Drivers traveling faster than 50 miles an hour are involved in more
accidents and traffic violations than drivers traveling 40 to 49 miles an hour

Drivers on long trips travel faster than on short trips

Men between 30 and 40 years of age travel more miles each year than other
or younger drivers

Better Control Means Less Accidents in Small Towns

To reduce accident rates and increase awareness of community's police and

Chapters and chapters detailed the findings of the research without interpretation

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Two-Thirds Of Amendments, Initiated Or Referred Proposals Rejected Nov. 5

Approval of two state civil service amendments, varied decisions of voters on old age security proposals, and rejection of liquor questions and proposals to raise legislators' pay featured results of November 5 balloting on approximately 165 constitutional amendments and initiative or referred measures, a preliminary study by the Council of State Governments showed today.

Approximately two-thirds of the proposals were defeated in the election, including the majority of amendments and measures on tax propositions and gasoline and motor fuel funds.

Civil service amendments were approved in Michigan and Louisiana, according to the study. The Michigan amendment will set up a bipartisan four-man state civil service commission with all state employes under the merit system except elective officials, department heads, and certain others. Approval of the Louisiana amendment provides for state civil service by confirming the act passed by the 1940 legislature.

Old age security measures were approved in Washington and California, and rejected in Colorado and Arkansas. The Washington amendment raises pensions from \$30 to \$40 a month for persons over 65, and abolishes liens on property of recipients. Two California amendments approved bar and release liens on property owned by recipients. Colorado voters rejected an amendment to reduce the state's present \$45 a month limit to \$30, while Arkansas refused approval of an amendment setting up a new old age assistance system, and reducing the eligible age from 65 to 60.

Amendments to raise legislators' pay were rejected in Louisiana, Oregon, Missouri and Washington. While a Tennessee pay-raise amendment received a favorable majority of 3-to-1, it was pointed out that Tennessee amendments in order to pass must receive a majority equivalent to the majority of votes cast for representatives in the legislature. The official count will determine whether the 3-to-1 majority

(MORE)

was enough. Among other legislative amendments, California defeated a proposal to permit annual sessions of the legislature, while Tennessee gave a 3-to-1 majority to an amendment lengthening the governor's term of office from two to four years.

Liquor proposals met defeat in three states---Oklahoma, Oregon and Idaho. The Oklahoma constitutional amendment called for repeal of prohibition in the state, authorization of the importation, manufacture and sale of liquor, and establishment of a state license system. An initiated proposal in Oregon, had it won, would have repealed the state liquor store system and authorized private sale. The defeated Idaho initiated proposition provided for county option on liquor sales.

Among the tax measures rejected was an Oklahoma amendment authorizing a graduated land tax which would result in the application of low property tax rates on small holdings and higher rates on higher holdings; the amendment was hailed by its sponsors as a means of getting farmers back on the farms. Arkansas refused approval to an amendment to exempt \$50 worth of personal property for single persons and \$100 for married persons; Arizona rejected homestead exemptions up to \$5,000; and Louisiana voted down an amendment to extend to 1944 the exemption from property taxes of manufacturing plants in New Orleans, and to extend the power of the state board of commerce to exempt new industries from taxation.

Idaho approved an amendment limiting proceeds of gas taxes to construction and maintenance of highways, South Dakota defeated an amendment to prohibit diversion of gasoline taxes, while Arizona rejected a proposal for local gas-tax sharing.

The study was based on unofficial returns, which are subject to revision after the official returns are made.

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States Lead In Field Of Labor-Legislation Despite Recent Federal Laws

The 48 states still lead in the field of labor legislation despite such federal statutes as the Fair Labor Standards, the National Labor Relations and the Social Security acts, according to an analysis of state legislation by the U.S. Department of Labor, the Council of State Governments noted today.

Practically every state in the Union has enacted, during this period, legislation covering one or many such subjects as wages and hours, child labor, industrial home work, wage-claim collection, and workmen's compensation, according to the analysis, which showed the following labor legislation developments since 1933:

Minimum wage laws, which prevent wages from sinking below a certain level, now are in operation in 26 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska and Puerto Rico, whereas only seven states had such laws in 1933. While the bottom level may be determined by state legislatures, it is fixed in most states by wage boards composed of employers, workers and representatives of the public. The laws apply only to women and minors in all but one state---Connecticut.

To safeguard the health of workers against excessive strain and fatigue, laws have been passed by practically every state setting some limit to the number of hours which may be worked---most of the laws applying only to women. While only nine states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico had set a 48-hour week for women by 1933, 14 additional states and Alaska have this standard today. The hours that men work are on the whole unregulated by state law.

Although there is some sort of child labor law in every state and territory, only 13 states, Alaska and Hawaii have raised to 16 years the minimum age for children in some employments. Seven years ago only two states had met this standard. The federal Fair Labor Standards act overlaps the state laws in that it requires minors who work in establishments covered by the act to be at least 16 years old, and forbids employment of children between 16 and 18 in certain occupations.

(MORE)

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Only one state---Wisconsin---regulated and restricted industrial home work before 1933, but since then strong regulatory laws have been adopted by seven states---California, Texas, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Since low wages, long hours and child labor accompany industrial home work, some of these state laws permit the outright prohibition of it. Ten other states have laws to control sanitary conditions under which home work is performed.

During the last half-dozen years, nine states and Hawaii have given their labor departments power to assist workers in collecting back wages owed them by employers, bringing to 16 the number of states giving this protection, according to the analysis. The states taking this action in recent years are Washington, Utah, New Mexico, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, New York, New Hampshire and New Jersey.

There is but one state today---Mississippi---without any kind of a workman's compensation law, while three states---Arkansas, Florida and South Carolina---adopted their laws during the last seven years. Since 1935, however, the benefit provisions in 18 states have been increased substantially, with Minnesota making its elective law compulsory and Alabama increasing its coverage from employers of 16 workers to employers of eight.

The analysis showed also the development since 1933 of occupational disease compensation laws. In 1933 only six states, the District of Columbia and Hawaii had general coverage laws for occupational diseases, while five states and Puerto Rico had limited coverage. By 1940 two states---New York and Ohio---had changed from limited to general coverage, and new general coverage laws had been passed by Illinois and Indiana. At present, 10 states, the District of Columbia and Hawaii have general coverage compensation laws. New limited coverage laws were enacted in 11 states between 1933 and 1940, bringing to 14 the number of states with such laws, plus Puerto Rico.

Efforts of states to improve their labor departments since 1933 are shown by the analysis as follows: new labor departments were created in Arkansas, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Vermont; new unified departments were created to administer labor laws and enforce regulations for health and safety in places of employment in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, and in Hawaii; rule-making power for safety and health was given to existing departments of labor in Illinois, North Carolina and West Virginia; and labor departments were enlarged and reorganized to enforce new labor laws in Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Twenty-one states now are actively promoting voluntary apprentice training in cooperation with industry, labor and school authorities. Prior to 1933, only two states---Wisconsin and Oregon---were engaged in this activity.

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New Plan For Dealing With Tax-Deeded Land To Take Effect

California, which during the past six years has collected \$370,283 in rentals on land taken over for nonpayment of taxes and returned about \$7,500,000 worth of property to the tax rolls, is preparing to set up a new system of dealing with the problem of tax-deeded lands, according to information from the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers.

Under a law which takes effect early next year, the rental of tax-deeded property will be used to help cities and counties return such property to the tax rolls. Such rentals, according to the California state controller, have been paying the cost of administering the 3,000,000 acres of farm and ranch land and the 150,000 city lots deeded to the state for nonpayment of taxes, and in addition have contributed materially to the state treasury.

Tax-deeded lands, under the new system, will be classified into three groups, those suitable for sale to private owners, those suitable for public use, such as potential park or playground areas, and waste lands which cannot produce enough revenue to be self-supporting. The original owner of such property, under the new plan, will be permitted to bid in the tax sale, even if he has failed to redeem the property. This permission is not now given him.

Much of the tax-deeded land has been burdened with overlapping assessments for improvements, or with irrigation and reclamation district assessments, in addition to county and state taxes. The state controller and his district supervisors have been cooperating with cities and special districts to arrange the refinancing of their bonded indebtedness.

Before 1925 few lands were deeded to the state for nonpayment of taxes. The largest number in any one year was in 1932, when there were 325,000 sales to the state. In some counties, the assessed value of property owned by the state became as much as 30 per cent of the total assessed value.

California With Tax-Deeded Land to Date

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States Regulate Sale Of Prison-Made Goods

Prison-made goods, which Congress by an act of 1929 made subject to state laws even if in interstate commerce, now are regulated by legislation in 38 states, according to a federal study noted by the American Municipal Association today.

Acting to remove prison labor from competition with free labor, 11 states have passed laws entirely prohibiting the sale or distribution of prison-made goods, including imports, on the open market. They are: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee and West Virginia.

Although New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Wyoming have no legislation restricting the sale of all convict-made goods on the open market, present prison policies provide for a closed market.

With certain stated exceptions 20 states have general prohibitions on the open-market sale of prison-made goods---Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

Eleven states, including four of the preceding, specifically prohibit the sale or distribution of imported prison-made goods within their boundaries---Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia.

Seven states---Alabama, Delaware, Missouri, Nevada, South Carolina, Vermont and Wyoming---do not regulate the sale of prison products; and three states---Iowa and North and South Dakota---only require labeling and impose no other restrictions.

The state-use system, under which the sale of prison-goods is limited exclusively to state departments and agencies, has been adopted by 36 states. The great majority of the states permit the use of prison labor on roads and many of the states permit prisoners to be used in the construction and maintenance of public works.

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Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota,

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States To Tax Private Business On Federal Reservations

The states will be able to collect taxes in 1941 on private business which has been largely tax-free because of location on federal property, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

The recent passage of the Buck act by Congress, the Federation said, allows the states to impose sales, use, and income taxes on private transactions and occupations in military posts, national parks, post offices and other federal areas. The states may levy and collect such taxes just as they do elsewhere.

While in some cases the states have been able to tax in these areas, as when they have ceded territory to the United States and specifically retained that power, federal areas for the most part have escaped state taxes, it was said. The federal government owns 20.74 per cent of the country's total area.

California alone has estimated it lost \$1,500,000 annually in sales tax revenue from business on federal property.

The new measure permits the states to collect their taxes on purchases and sales of goods except those bought for the exclusive use of the United States. It also does away with the territorial immunity from income taxation hitherto enjoyed by persons living on federal reservations or deriving income from transactions or services performed on federal reservations.

Sales tax provisions of the act are broad enough to include special taxes, such as those on cigarettes, tobacco and whiskey, the Federation said.

The new act also plugs a loophole in a previous measure enacted to allow the states to tax gasoline sales on federal reservations. Illinois and several other states levied their taxes on the "use" of gasoline instead of on its sale and therefore had been unable to collect on the reservations. Illinois said it lost \$21,000 annually on motor fuel taxes alone on three of the 10 major federal reservations in the states.

Among the difficulties previously encountered by the states in connection with sales on federal reservations were these:

In California, a contractor on a reservation job ordered more tractors and other equipment than he needed for the job. He had them delivered on the reservation to avoid the sales tax and later took them to another part of the state for use.

In Texas, soldiers bought tax-free cigarettes from post exchanges on credit, then bootlegged them in order to provide themselves with cash between paydays.

A post office lobby concessionaire in Birmingham refused to stamp his cigarettes as required under the cigarette tax law. Similar difficulties were experienced under the city occupational tax with professional bondsmen who transacted their business in the post office building in which the federal court was located.

Army men and civilian employes at a fort near Tacoma purchased articles in the city and had them delivered at the fort, thus escaping the state's sales tax.

In New Mexico, stores owned by white proprietors and located on Indian reservations sold goods tax free to tourists and to non-Indians in the vicinity.

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petition under the city occupational tax with professional bondsmen who transacted

Disaster Plan Provides For Shelter Of 7,000,000

A plan for the protection and shelter of the 7,000,000 inhabitants of New York City in case of disaster has been drafted by the municipal board of control, according to information from the International City Managers' Association.

The plan, prepared under the direction of the police commissioner, provides for the mobilization of 87,000 city employees within four hours, and for the use of all municipal equipment. The city has 700 trucks, not in daily use, stored for an emergency.

In preparing the plan, municipal employees mapped the structure of buildings and estimated the number of people that could be sheltered in each, and indicated on city maps every street, bridge, tunnel and public utility.

* * *

Cities Expand Fire Prevention Activities

Fire departments of American cities are inventing new methods and adopting time-tested measures for the prevention of fire, reports from the International City Managers' Association indicated today.

The Cleveland fire department inspected 80,000 homes in an intensive campaign during the past nine months, and cooperated with the school system in giving a course in fire prevention to all high school students within the city.

Cincinnati, conducting a special campaign to eliminate the overloading of electrical circuits, got 90,000 fuses of 25 and 30 ampere capacity replaced by 15 ampere fuses.

The Houston, Tex., fire department is sponsoring two educational radio programs each month over a local station.

Miami and Tallahassee, Fla., have recently adopted ordinances setting up fire prevention bureaus.

* * *

CORRECTION: In our Release for Nov. 11, Increased Authority of State Police Departments Shown By Study, the second sentence in the fifth paragraph should read: "The average state expenditure per 100,000 population for state police departments is \$24, with the largest \$86 and the smallest \$7.80."

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JOINT REFERENCE
LIBRARY

NOV 22 1940

Taxation

State Tax Revenues Increase 7.3 Per Cent Over 1939

With general and selective sales taxes producing more than 40 per cent of the total, the 48 states will receive an estimated \$4,131,400,000 (B) in 1940 tax revenues, an analysis by the Federation of Tax Administrators showed today. The total represents an increase of 7.3 per cent over 1939, and 26 per cent over 1937. *W*

The major sources of revenue were payroll, property, death and gift, income, business and occupation, motor vehicle, and general sales taxes, and the selective tobacco, liquor and gasoline sales taxes. If the payroll tax, used for unemployment insurance purposes and producing about a fifth of all state revenues, is not included, the 1940 increase is 7.5 per cent over 1939 and 9 per cent over 1937.

Increases of 10 per cent or more were reported for only three of the major tax sources for 1940 over 1939, the Federation said. Tobacco tax collections are about 61 per cent above last year, accounted for in large part by five new states recently adopting the tax. Liquor taxes and license collections are up 20 per cent from 1939, the increase due both to increased consumption and increased gallonage taxes in several states.

The only decrease occurred in the category of estate (death) and gift taxes, which dropped about 10 per cent below the 1939 yield.

State tax yields have tended to increase gradually during the last four years as the tax structures became stabilized following sweeping changes during the depression years. Since 1937 the only major change in state tax systems has been the adoption by all the states of the payroll tax for unemployment compensation.

Percentage of total tax yields for the various states in 1937-39-40:

		Death & Gift				Business & Occupation				Motor Vehicle		Motor
	<u>Pay- roll</u>	<u>Prop.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Misc.</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Tobacco</u>	<u>Liquor</u>	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Licenses</u>	<u>Fuel</u>		
1940	20.6%	6.3%	2.9%	8.4%	1.0%	10.2%	2.3%	6.4%	12.0%	9.3%	20.6%	
1939	20.7	6.7	3.5	8.6	1.1	10.5	1.5	5.7	11.5	9.4	20.8	
1937	10.3	8.7	3.5	10.6	1.9	11.6	1.6	6.6	12.9	10.8	21.5	

The estimate of 1940 state tax revenue figures is based primarily on census bureau data for 39 states whose fiscal years ended June 30 or before, the Federation said. The 39 states collected \$3,318,100,000 (B), of which \$481,572,000 (M), or 17 per cent, was turned over to local governmental units in the form of shared taxes. In addition a considerable amount later was distributed to the local units in the form of grants-in-aid.

* * *

State Home Guard Units Will Replace National Guard Troops Called To Service

Plans to replace National Guard units called into federal service with home guard or other state defense organizations are moving ahead rapidly, the Council of State Governments said today. Home guard units already are in the formative stage in many states, while tentative plans have been drawn up in others.

Under most state defense programs, home guard units will organize along military lines in squads, platoons, companies and battalions, as in Alabama, Georgia, Minnesota, Oregon and Virginia. In some states neighborhood groups will form loosely organized units, while in a few, state police will perform emergency defense work.

Responsibility for organizing and commanding the units will fall mostly to reserve officers of the regular army and National Guard, the Reserve Officers Training Corps and Citizens Military Training Corps, and to officials of war veterans groups. Eligibles for enlistment in the units in most states will be older than those eligible for the draft.

It will be the job of the home defense units to perform military guard duty for utilities, power plants, water works, industrial plants, docks, railroad yards, air fields and other areas vital to national defense activities.

Alabama is setting up a home guard with the state American Legion as a nucleus. The Unit will be organized into separate battalions, with the state Legion commander its colonel, and area Legion commanders serving as lieutenant colonels. A plan has been developed for "position of readiness" with the state military department mapping every locality.

A "Minnesota Defense Force" of infantry totaling about 300 officers and 4,000 enlisted men will be formed, with commissioned personnel drawn from reserve officer groups. The Oregon State Guard, according to present plans, will be made up of officers and men between the ages of 40 and 60 who have served in the nation's armed forces for at least six months during a national emergency.

Virginia's program calls for the immediate organization of an infantry brigade of 135 officers and 2,554 enlisted men, and for the organization, if necessary, of separate local defense companies, at least one to each county. New Jersey plans for a home defense force of approximately 4,000 officers and men, created as National Guard units are called into federal service.

The Texas Defense Corps will be organized into companies and battalions of men between the ages of 21 and 64, with preference given to men who served in the World War, National Guard or regular army. Officers will be appointed by the governor upon recommendation of various civic organizations.

A Pennsylvania reserve militia will be organized if the situation becomes serious enough to demand it; otherwise state defense will be undertaken by voluntary organizations and the state police. The state police also will take over emergency defense activities in Nevada under present plans.

Neighborhood groups, made up largely of war veterans, are being formed along military lines in Arizona, but there will be no drilling or parading under arms.

Other states where home guard unit organizations are planned include Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

THE WAR RELLOCATION AUTHORITY

There is a growing realization that the United States must be prepared to meet the possibility of a sudden attack on our shores. The War Relocation Authority is now planning to establish a series of defense camps for the purpose of training and equipping a reserve force of citizens.

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It will be the job of the home defense units to perform military guard duty in the event of a sudden attack on our shores. The units will be organized into companies, battalions, and brigades, and will be equipped with the necessary arms and equipment.

Alabama is setting up a home guard with the state American Legion as a sponsor. The Legion will be responsible for the training and equipping of the units. The units will be organized into companies, battalions, and brigades, and will be equipped with the necessary arms and equipment.

A "Home Guard Force" of citizens is being organized in the State of Alabama. The force will be organized into companies, battalions, and brigades, and will be equipped with the necessary arms and equipment. The force will be open to all citizens who are able and willing to serve.

Virginia's program calls for the immediate organization of an infantry force for at least six months during a national emergency. The force will be organized into companies, battalions, and brigades, and will be equipped with the necessary arms and equipment.

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Defense activities in Nevada under present plans. The War Relocation Authority is now planning to establish a series of defense camps for the purpose of training and equipping a reserve force of citizens. The camps will be located in various parts of the country, and will be operated by the War Relocation Authority.

Eight States Grant Personal Exemptions From General Property Taxes

With rejection of a proposed constitutional amendment by Arkansas voters in the recent election, the number of states granting exemptions from personal property taxes to a large group of taxpayers remains at eight, the National Association of Assessing Officers said today.

The states and exemptions: Minnesota and California, \$100 each; Colorado, Kansas and New Mexico, \$200 each; Kentucky, \$250; and Tennessee, \$1,000. The Association pointed out that actual exemptions are higher than shown by these figures because the assessed values often are less than full values.

Minnesota assessors, for example, are directed to assess property at various percentages of true value, and the \$100 deduction from the assessed valuation usually exempts \$400 worth of property, the Association said. Similarly, the Washington exemption by law, and the California exemption by practice, apply to property having an estimated true value twice the assessed value.

As a general rule, the Association said, only one exemption is available to a family. In Colorado, New Mexico and Washington the exemption is available only to heads of families, in Kentucky to persons with families, and in California to householders. The laws of Kansas and Minnesota state specifically that each family or household shall receive one exemption. Tennessee is the only state in which the exemption goes to all personal property owners.

Exemptions from personal property taxes ordinarily may be applied to any personal property not otherwise exempt, the Association said. New Mexico alone broadens the exemption to include real property. Washington does not allow the exemption to be taken against private motor vehicles, most of which now are subject to a special property tax in lieu of the general property tax.

Significance of the personal exemption depends on the extent to which particular classes of property are exempt, according to the Association. An exemption of \$100 worth of household furnishings has about the same effect as a personal exemption of \$100 for heads of families, since most heads of families have at least \$100 worth of household furnishings against which to take their personal exemptions.

The rejected Arkansas amendment would have exempted \$50 worth of personal property for single persons and \$100 for married persons.

The Association pointed out that the eight states' personal property tax exemptions are not to be confused with such exemptions as those granted war veterans and other relatively small special groups.

Village Shows Its Citizens Services Rendered By Local Government

The local fair, the traditional American combination of an exhibit of local products and a community festival, had a new feature added this year in Riverside, Ill., when the village officials took it as an opportunity to display to the public the work of the village government.

Citizens packed the town hall to see exhibits in the council room and lobbies showing the activities of each village department, and charts and graphs illustrating the cost of relief as administered by the township, the International City Managers Association reported today.

A 10-sheet air map atlas of the entire town was shown along with enlarged pictures of road, park and garbage department equipment in operation and maps and plans of improvements.

Handicraft projects were exhibited by the recreation department. Five hundred sets of fingerprints were taken on specially prepared complimentary cards by the police department, which also showed visitors its new quarters, and jail and radio equipment. Firemen displayed new fire equipment and special apparatus. Village employes were on hand at each display to explain the exhibits and to answer inquiries regarding village services.

The building inspection department exhibited a scale model of a frame residence, showing construction features required by the building ordinance. Graphs and spot maps showed permits issued during the current and past 10 years.

Water department exhibits included a photograph of meter-testing equipment, interior views of the two pumping plants, and a display showing faucet and flush bowl leaks in operation.

The costs of the various village services were shown by colored graphs of the sources of the village tax dollar and the services for which it was spent. A special display showed the annual cost of village services to the taxpayer who paid \$150 a year.

* * *

The local fair, the traditional American combination of an exhibit of local
and a community festival, had a new feature added this year in February.

Officers noted the fair held to our children in the month of February
that the activities of each village department, and some of the
in most of relief as administered by the township, the International City Managers

A detailed air map of the entire town was given along with a number
pictures of road, park and garage department equipment in color on air maps and films
of improvements.

Handicraft projects were exhibited by the various departments. The
hundred sets of tinware were taken on specially prepared containers, sent by
the police department, which also carried visitors for new quarters, and fair and police
equipment. Fireman displayed new fire equipment and several apparatus. Village
employees were on hand at each display to explain the exhibits and to answer inquiries
regarding village services.

The existing layout of the town was described in a model of a town.

and good maps showed present layout during the summer and past 10 years.
Water department exhibit included a photograph of water-treatment equipment,
or view of the two pumping plants, and a display showing tanks and flash bowl

of the village tax dollar and the services for which it was spent.

Attorneys General Rule In Favor Of Alcohol Tests, Motion Picture Evidence

Opinions by the attorneys general of Indiana and California in favor of alcoholic tests and motion picture evidence were reported today by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The Indiana opinion permits state police to use any reasonable force or compulsion in making a person take the "drunkometer" test for intoxication, which shows the exact correlation between the alcoholic content in the blood stream and that found in the breath.

The usual objections advanced against the use of such devices, the opinion said, have been the self-incrimination and unlawful search and seizure rules.

"With respect to the search and seizure rules," according to the opinion, "it has always been considered that a search of persons was proper where the person has validly been arrested or where the peace officer has proper cause to think that a felony had been committed. As for the rule against self-incrimination, this constitutional safeguard is held to apply only to testimonial utterances and not to proof of physical facts which speak for themselves."

The California opinion holds that moving pictures taken immediately after an arrest for driving while intoxicated would be admissible as evidence even though taken without the knowledge of the accused, or if taken with his knowledge but against his will.

The opinion held there would be no legal difference between taking pictures of an arrested person and personally observing his movements in order later to testify concerning those movements, except that such pictures, properly taken and projected, would constitute more accurate evidence than would the oral testimony of the person who had observed him.

"In neither of the instances could it be said the person was giving evidence against himself, since admissibility of motion pictures as evidence is determined by the basic principles governing admissibility of still pictures," the opinion said.

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Traffic devices

Red Concrete "Slow Traffic" Lane For Trucks Makes Hill Safer

To provide an open road for fast cars on a long hill outside Nashville, Tenn., a third lane of red concrete for slow traffic has been constructed, information to the American Public Works Association showed today.

The third lane allows trucks to take their time climbing the hill, while light cars have a clear two-lane road for extra speed and safety.

Since the road is a series of curves limiting sight distance, it was apparent that fast traffic would pile up behind slow-moving trucks, which in turn would lead to accidents caused by impatient drivers attempting to pull around trucks in the face of down-grade traffic.

The problem of keeping the slow traffic in a single lane was solved by constructing the lane of concrete colored red with iron oxide.

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Employees of Many Cities Issue Publications

Municipal departments and employe associations in 17 cities are building esprit de corps and informing themselves on their work through co-operatively published newspapers and bulletins, the International City Managers Association said today.

The "Waterlite News," put out by the 260 employes of the water, light and power department of Springfield, Ill., was cited as an example of the few publications of utilities departments.

Each of the 10 divisions in the department furnishes an associate editor to the staff of the "Waterlite News" and the editor is a research engineer. In addition to stories on department and employe affairs, the publication carried a series on the large power and water users of Springfield.

Other utilities department publications are the "Munny Ups and Downs" of Omaha; "The Kilowatt," of Kansas City; "Your C-L News," of Seattle; "Splashes," of Oakland, Cal.; "The Kilowater Account" of Knoxville, Tenn.; the "Siphon" of New York City; and the "Intake" of Los Angeles.

The city treasurer of Muskegon, Mich., issues a mimeographed sheet called "The Buzz Saw" which carries items on what the departments of city government are doing. Municipal employe groups in the following cities issue publications: Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Flint, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and San Diego.

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Flow Traffic Lane For Trucks Along Hill

To provide an open road for fast cars on a long hill outside Nashville, Tenn., a third lane of red concrete for slow traffic has been constructed, information to the American Public Works Association showed today.

The third lane allows trucks to take their time climbing the hill, while fast cars have a clear two-lane road for extra speed and safety. Since the road is a series of curves limiting sight distance, it was apparent that fast traffic would pile up behind slow-moving trucks, which in turn would lead to accidents caused by impatient drivers attempting to pass around trucks in the face

The problem of keeping the slow traffic in a single lane was solved by painting the lane of concrete colored red with iron oxide.

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Municipal departments and employee associations in 17 cities are building esprit de corps and informing themselves on their work through co-operatively published

and bulletins, the International City Managers Association said today. The "Waterline News," put out by the 250 employees of the water, light and sewer department of Springfield, Ill., was cited as an example of the few publications of utilities departments.

Each of the 10 divisions in the department furnishes an associate editor for the staff of the "Waterline News" and the editor is a research engineer. In addition to stories on department and employee affairs, the publication carries a series on the large power and water users of Springfield.

Other utilities department publications are the "Many Ups and Downs" of "The Kiwaatt," of Kansas City; "Your G-I News," of Seattle; "Sylabac," of Oakland, Cal.; "The Kiwaatt Account" of Knoxville, Tenn.; the "Giphon" of New York City; and the "Intake" of Los Angeles.

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Tobacco tax

Tobacco Tax Yield Expected To Pass \$100,000,000 Mark For 1940

State tobacco tax collections may pass the \$100,000,000 mark for the 1940 fiscal year, according to estimates based on figures from 21 of the 26 tobacco tax states, the National Tobacco Tax Conference through its secretariat, the Federation of Tax Administrators, said today.

Tobacco tax collections of the 21 states reporting at the end of their 1940 fiscal years were \$70,464,000. In 17 states which levied the tax in both 1939 and 1940, revenues increased from \$38,492,000 to \$43,568,000---or a gain of 13.2 per cent. Four states which collected the tax for the first full year in 1940 reported revenues of \$26,898,000.

Five states have not yet reported their 1940 revenues, but if Massachusetts revenues continue at the present rate and if the other four unreported states have comparable gains over last year, the tax yield on the basis of a study by the U. S. Bureau of the Census will be over \$99,000,000, it was said. When licenses and permit fees are added, the figure "should be boosted to over \$100,000,000" as compared with collections of about \$60,000,000 in 1939, according to the Federation.

"Federal tobacco taxes increased 5 per cent in the fiscal year 1940 over 1939. The 13 per cent rise in state yields, well above the increase in consumption indicated by the federal figure, would seem to indicate that the efforts of tobacco tax administrators to eradicate evasion are bearing fruit," the Federation said.

Washington tobacco tax revenues almost doubled, increasing from \$1,092,000 in 1939 to \$2,103,000 in 1940, following a raise in the tax from 1¢ to 2¢. Vermont revenues in 1940 were \$501,000 as compared with \$348,000 in 1939. The increase in Vermont also followed a boost in the levy, from 1½¢ to 2¢. Most of the states showed medium gains in revenue.

New York state received the largest amount of tobacco tax revenue in 1940---\$21,530,000---and Pennsylvania came second with \$11,983,000.

Thirteen of the 26 states tax only cigarettes; four tax cigarettes, papers and tubes, and nine tax cigarettes, cigars and other tobacco products.

The highest tax of 5¢ is levied by two states, Louisiana and Arkansas. One state, Mississippi, levies a 4¢ tax. Eight states---Alabama, Georgia, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and Texas---impose a 3¢ tax. The remaining 15 tobacco tax states impose a 2¢ tax. They are: Arizona, Connecticut, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

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State Capitals Show Population Gains, Vary Widely In Size

All state capitals, with the exception of Boston, Mass., and Frankfort, Ky., showed population increases in the 1940 census, the Council of State Governments said today.

Boston, largest of the capitals, dropped from 781,188 in 1930 to 769,520 in 1940, while the Kentucky capital's population dropped from 11,626 to 11,472.

All except six capitals---those of Massachusetts, Kentucky, Montana, South Dakota, Vermont, and Nevada---have grown progressively with each census since 1910. Frankfort's population declined in the 1920 census, went up in 1930, and dropped again in 1940. Boston grew with each census until 1940.

Helena, capital of Montana, had a population of 12,515 in 1910, a drop in 1920 and 1930, and a rise this year to 14,905. Carson City, Nev., smallest of the capitals, had 2,466 inhabitants in 1910, lost population in the two succeeding tallies and now has 2,474 residents---a total gain of eight persons over the period.

Pierre, S.D., showed a slight population decline in 1920, rising in 1930 and now listing 4,264 residents. Montpelier, Vt., had less population in 1920 and 1930 than in 1910, and then was high in 1940 with the unofficial figure of 7,964---all variations being within a range of 108 persons.

The greatest numerical gain was shown between 1930 and 1940 by Austin, Tex., which increased by 33,191 inhabitants to a total of 86,311.

Indianapolis, Ind., with 386,170 population is the runner-up to Boston in size among the capitals. The city gained 22,009 inhabitants over 1930.

Four of the capitals---Dover, Del., Carson City, Nev., Pierre, S.D., and Montpelier, Vt., have populations under 10,000. Twenty-eight state capitals have populations between 10,000 and 100,000. Eight capitals have populations between 100,000 and 200,000---Sacramento, Calif., Hartford, Conn., Des Moines, Ia., Trenton, N.J., Albany, N.Y., Nashville, Tenn., Salt Lake City, Utah, and Richmond, Va. Three state capitals, St. Paul, Minn., Oklahoma City, Okla., and Providence, R.I., have 200,000 to 300,000. Five capitals number over 300,000 residents---Denver, Colo., Atlanta, Ga., Indianapolis, Ind., Columbus, O., and Boston, Mass.

All state capitals, with the exception of Boston, Maine, and Trenton, N.J., showed population increases in the 1940 census, the Council of State Governments said.

All except six capitals--those of Massachusetts, Kentucky, Montana, North Dakota, Vermont, and Nevada--have grown progressively with each census since 1910. Trenton's population declined in the 1930 census, went up in 1935, and dropped again in 1940. Boston grew with each census until 1930.

Helena, capital of Montana, had a population of 12,519 in 1910, a drop in 1920 and 1930, and a rise this year to 14,905. Carson City, Nev., smallest of the capitals, had 2,466 inhabitants in 1910, lost population in the two succeeding tallies and now has 2,444 residents--a total gain of eight persons over the period.

Pierre, S.D., showed a slight population decline in 1920, rising in 1930 and now listing 4,264 residents. Montpelier, Vt., had less population in 1920 and 1930 than in 1910, and then was high in 1940 with the unofficial figure of 7,364--all variations being within a range of 103 persons.

The greatest numerical gain was shown between 1930 and 1940 by Austin, Tex., which increased by 33,191 inhabitants to a total of 85,711.

Indianapolis, Ind., with 308,140 population is the runner-up to Boston in the among the capitals. The city gained 22,003 inhabitants over 1930.

Four of the capitals--Dover, Del., Carson City, Nev., Pierre, S.D., and Montpelier, Vt., have populations under 10,000. Twenty-eight state capitals have between 10,000 and 100,000. Eight capitals have populations between 100,000 and 200,000. The balance have over 200,000.

Adoption By Reference Encourages Use of Modern Codes By Cities

The usual requirement that a municipal ordinance must be published before becoming effective, which has prevented many cities from adopting the most modern regulations to protect the health and safety of its citizens, is no longer a handicap in the dozen-odd states that permit "adoption by reference," the American Municipal Association reported today.

Building codes drafted by experts of nationally known private organizations or regulations recommended by a state health agency may be so long that most cities cannot afford to have them published. Adoption by reference provisions makes it possible for a city council to enact such regulations in full at the cost of publishing only their titles.

Thus a city might enact the building code recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, containing 316 pages, merely by publishing a one-paragraph ordinance to that effect and having several copies of the code on file with the city clerk. By a similar procedure the Council might enact the recommended minimum requirements for plumbing of the U.S. Department of Commerce, a code containing 280 pages.

Similarly, cities may adopt their state health or misdemeanor codes, perhaps noting briefly certain amendments to provide for unusual local needs.

Adoption by reference not only saves cities the cost of publication, but encourages them to make use of regulations drafted by experts on such technical subjects as building construction, planning and zoning, and health and hygiene, the Association said.

Two-thirds of the states, by general legislation, require cities to publish their ordinances, and in most of the other states local charters require such publication.

General state legislation permits the adoption of codes by reference in eleven states---Arizona, California, Idaho, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. In addition, cities may adopt by reference statutory codes in several states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, Pennsylvania and Texas.

The administrative regulations drafted by state departments, such as plumbing regulations set forth by a state board of health, may be adopted by reference by cities in nine states---Alabama, Arizona, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

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(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another story on the organization of state police;
the first appeared in the Nov. 11 News Bulletin). *Pl. 2*

Careful selection, adequate salary, and security and tenure of office are necessary for obtaining and keeping competent state police department executives, a study by the Safety division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police showed today.

Selection of chiefs or commissioners of state police agencies in 17 states rests with the governor, and in nine states with the governor with consent of the senate. Only in California and Colorado are state police executives named through civil service, the study showed.

The appointments are made by the commissioner of public safety in eight states, a state board or commission in six, and in one state each by the commissioner of revenue, lieutenant governor, minister of justice and the state penitentiary warden.

Terms of office of most state police chiefs are indefinite, statutes usually prescribing they shall serve "at pleasure." However, in 19 states a definite term is provided---in 12 states for four years. These are Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Of the other seven states with definite terms, the tenure is two years in Idaho, Vermont and Nebraska; five years in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New Jersey; and six years in Wisconsin.

The comparatively short term served by chiefs in office on Jan. 1, 1940, is indicative of insecurity, the study said. It was pointed out, however, that a few of the departments have been organized only a few years, and that their executives therefore have served only short terms.

Chiefs of 15 states had served less than one year as of Jan. 1, while those of only three states had more than 10 years of service behind them. Nine chiefs had served from one to two years, six from two to three years, eight from three to four years, and none from four to 10 years.

Salaries of the state police chiefs range from \$2,400 to \$10,000 a year---the latter figure paid the head of New York's state police agency. Other relatively high salaries are paid in Pennsylvania, \$8,000; New Jersey, \$9,000; Michigan, Indiana, Louisiana and West Virginia, \$6,000 each; and Rhode Island \$5,000.

In 12 state departments the chief's salary is less than \$3,500 a year, and in about two-thirds of the departments, under \$5,000.

City Finance Officers Go To School In Eight States

Trainer

City finance officers are students in regular in-service training programs established in eight states---Utah, Texas, Virginia, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Florida and California, the Municipal Finance Officers Association said today.

The courses, like similar ones for policemen, firemen, water and sewer plant operators, and health and welfare employes, are paid for by federal funds matched by state or local money, or both, in five of the states. In Wisconsin, Florida and California, the finance officers' training program is conducted without federal assistance.

City clerks, treasurers and other finance officers study for the practical assistance they get from the training programs, which are not a part of a college course leading to a degree and are not required to conform to the conditions governing a college course.

In some instances, city councils have recognized the value of such training to the city and have paid the employes' expenses to the training course, the Association said. In other cases, the municipalities have contributed to a fund to secure or match federal funds. In most instances, however, state funds appropriated for vocational education have been used to finance the training course and there has been no charge to the cities or their employes for training.

Various methods of instruction are used in the different states but the courses usually consist of lectures, discussions, and supervised working of problems.

Accounting is the basis of instruction in Texas, Utah, Michigan and Virginia. From this it is possible to branch out into other aspects of finance administration--- budgeting, purchasing and debt administration, the Association said. Texas and Utah have prepared accounting manuals and, in addition, Texas has under way the preparation of an assessing manual to be used subsequently in a training course for assessors.

Texas has provided full-time itinerant instructors, while in Michigan local officials are being trained to conduct the training classes. In Utah, instruction is provided by the state university extension division.

New Accident Investigation Squads Result In Increased Reporting

Accidents, Traffic

A steady increase in the reporting of traffic accidents to police headquarters has resulted from the organization of accident investigation squads by the Washington, D.C., police department, the International Association of Chiefs of Police said today. Forty men and seven squad cars make up the accident investigation unit.

More than 1,100 accidents were investigated during a recent month by the unit---the average of 36 a day representing an increase of three a day over the preceding two-year average. From their investigations, members of the squads were able to file charges in 44 per cent of the cases. Convictions were obtained in 90 per cent of the cases which reached court.

* * *

Defense Program Causes Shortage In Colorado Tax Tokens

Sales Tax - Tokens

National defense requirements have affected the materials used for the manufacture of Colorado sales tax tokens, the Federation of Tax Administrators said today.

The Colorado sales tax division is having difficulty in securing the necessary metals from which to manufacture the tokens and, in spite of the fact that there are 36,000,000 tokens outstanding, retailers are having trouble maintaining an adequate supply.

The sales tax division has asked all retailers with an oversupply of tokens to return them to the division to distribute where the need exists, the Federation said.

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to turn them to the division to distribute where the need exists, the Division

Cities Paying Lowest Interest Rates In Years On Short Term Loans

American municipalities are paying the lowest interest rates in years on short term loans of six months or less, the Municipal Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada said today after a study of interest rates paid by 70 cities on recent loans.

Seventeen of the cities borrowed at rates of 1 per cent per year or less, with two of them---Worcester and Springfield, Mass.---paying .06 per cent on their loans, or borrowing practically without interest, the Association said. Other cities borrowing at unusually low interest rates were Utica, N.Y., which paid .08 to .21 per cent; New Haven, Conn.---.09 to .125 per cent; Boston---.22 to .78 per cent; and Buffalo---.24 to .75 per cent.

On the other hand, high interest rates were paid by several cities, including Canton, O., and Jacksonville, Fla.---6 per cent; Knoxville, Tenn., and El Paso, Tex.---4 per cent; Peoria, Ill.---3 per cent; and Dallas and San Antonio, 2.75 and 2.67 per cent respectively. Long Beach, Calif., paid 4 per cent interest on outstanding registered general purpose warrants.

The fact that interest on municipal notes is exempt from the federal income tax, and that the notes themselves may have certain local tax exemptions, makes them desirable even though the purchaser gets little or no interest, the Association said. A further advantage to municipalities is the fact that interest rates have been declining constantly, as indicated by the Bond Buyer's Index, which shows the average interest yield on selected maturities of bonds of 20 large cities was 2.32 per cent per year on Nov. 1, 1940, compared with 5.69 per cent---the highest point ever reached---on May 1, 1933. The Nov. 1, 1940, interest yield established a new low.

The study showed also that some cities which formerly received interest on their bank balances now pay service charges, indicating that bank balances may not always be an earning asset, the Association said. Six of the 70 cities covered by the study pay service charges. Cincinnati pays the charge for work relief checks only---3 cents each for the first 400 checks and $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents each for the remainder. A charge of $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents also is made for each check deposited, but the city receives a credit of \$1.25 a day for each \$1,000 of its average daily balance. Denver pays a charge of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent on its average quarterly balance, the charge amounting to \$17,250 during 1939. South Bend, Ind., Utica, N.Y., and Detroit also pay service charges.

State And City Planning Boards Aid In Defense Program

Planning commissions of many cities and states are turning over to defense authorities information gathered in special defense surveys and previous studies on vacant sites, factories and areas where plants may be expanded, housing, traffic flow, areas or routes of congestion, and railroad terminals and sidings, the American Society of Planning Officials said today.

The planning groups are functioning in the defense program with the aim of aiding in building defense projects so that after the emergency they will serve long-term social, economic and physical purposes, the Society said.

Outstanding among planning groups in national defense is the Regional Defense Council of the Hampton Roads Area in Virginia. This organization, with members from four counties and five independent cities, is collecting and mapping data as to land use, population distribution and density, land ownership, land and building valuations, recent building activity, housing conditions, thoroughfares, traffic flow, sanitary facilities, utilities, schools, recreation areas and facilities, and hospitals.

The Milwaukee Board of Public Land Commissioners---the city planning board---has provided the local defense commission with a special report on vacant industrial property, number of vacant dwelling units, available labor supply, with details re-regarding location and transportation facilities.

In Concord, N.H., the city planning board made a careful study of the civil and defense aspects of a proposed airport expansion program.

The Brookhaven, N.Y., planning commission compiled a census of land use, an outline of existing and planned roads, a population map of suggested localities for newcomers. An industrial map indicated possible areas for industrial expansion, and another map, areas suitable for air fields.

In Syracuse, N.Y., the director of the planning board is also executive of the housing authority. His office has been designated to assume direction of all research for the local defense council.

The state planning boards of Kansas and New York are surveying idle plant facilities and production capacity. Planning agencies of California, Tennessee and Virginia are doing special research for their state defense councils, and the Arkansas state planning board has set up special defense committees to check on manpower, agricultural, forest and mineral resources, and manufacturing and transportation facilities.

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Indiana Allows Property Holders To Deduct Mortgage Value From Tax Assessment

Indiana is apparently the only state which permits a property owner to deduct the amount of a mortgage in paying his taxes, a study by the Illinois Legislative Council showed today.

The amount of a mortgage debt up to \$1,000 may be deducted from the assessed value of the real estate if the owner is an Indiana resident and reports the name and address of the mortgage holder. The mortgage is subject to the intangible property tax unless the holder lives outside the state. Deductions to land owners may not exceed one-half the assessed value of the real estate.

Two other states---Nebraska and Oregon---have experimented with measures allowing property owners deductions in their tax assessments for mortgages, according to the study. Before 1911, Nebraska provided that property owners and mortgage holders pay taxes according to their respective interests in a piece of property. Since 1911, mortgage and real estate have been assessed together where mortgage agreements have stated that the property owner should pay all taxes.

Oregon, in 1882, treated real estate mortgages as realty. The mortgage holder was taxed to the extent of his interest and the land owner permitted to deduct the amount of the mortgage from his assessment. Since 1893, however, Oregon has taxed real estate without allowing any such deduction and has exempted mortgages.

In Connecticut, money loaned on interest and secured by a mortgage on real estate is exempt from taxation if the loan does not exceed the value of the real estate. The amount of the loan above the value of the real estate is taxable, and if the loan agreement so provides, the taxes are billed to the owner of the property rather than to the lender.

The procedure followed by 23 of the remaining 44 states, according to the National Association of Assessing Officers, is to allow no deduction to property owners in tax assessments for amounts represented by mortgages and to tax the holders of mortgages under intangible personal property tax laws or mortgage recording tax laws.

The other 21 states tax real property without allowing a deduction for mortgage or other interests, but do not impose a tax on the value of the mortgages, the Association said.

THE REAL ESTATE TAX

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assessed value of one-half of the value of the property and the assessed value of the property is subject to the following: name and address of the mortgage holder. The mortgage holder is subject to the property tax unless the holder lives outside the state. The mortgage holder may not exceed one-half the assessed value of the real estate.

Two other states--Ohio and Michigan--have experimented with mortgage allowing property owners deductions in their tax assessments for mortgage interest to the state. Before 1911, Michigan provided that mortgage owners in making the holder pay taxes according to their respective interests in a piece of property. Since 1911,

Oregon, in 1902, assessed real estate on a basis of one-half of the assessed value of the property. The mortgage holder is subject to the property tax unless the holder lives outside the state. The mortgage holder may not exceed one-half the assessed value of the real estate. In Connecticut, mortgage interest on property is deducted from the assessed value of the property. The mortgage holder is subject to the property tax unless the holder lives outside the state. The mortgage holder may not exceed one-half the assessed value of the real estate.

The procedure followed by 25 of the states in the study, according to the Association of Assessing Officers, is to allow no deduction for mortgage interest on property. The mortgage holder is subject to the property tax unless the holder lives outside the state. The mortgage holder may not exceed one-half the assessed value of the real estate.

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(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the final story on the organization of state police; the first and second appeared in the Nov. 11 and Dec. 2 News Bulletins.)

Recruitment methods determine the caliber of state police and highway patrol departments, according to a study by the Safety Division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which said today "the best managed department cannot attain the necessary effectiveness without competent personnel."

Qualifications for membership in state police departments range from the relatively simple to those which exclude automatically the undesirable, the Division's analysis of recruitment methods showed.

Minimum and maximum entrance ages are specified by most of the departments, with 21 years the usual minimum. Maximum age limits range from 30 to 55 years, though in the majority of departments persons over 40 are not eligible. Most state police departments have weight and height qualifications also, and a candidate weighing around 180 pounds is preferred. One weighing less than 150 or more than 225 pounds seldom is eligible. While individuals less than 5 feet 7 inches tall are not often considered, few departments prescribe height limitations.

Educational qualifications are not required in about one-fourth of the departments studied by the Safety Division. Requirements vary from a grade or grammar school education to a high school education or its equivalent. "In this era of educational opportunity, a high school education or its equivalent should be the minimum," the Safety Division said.

Selection processes of the various state police departments are similar, according to the Division. In all departments the applicant must submit a written application which forms the basis for weeding out the undesirable, and from one-fifth to two-thirds of the applicants are rejected at this point. Most physical examinations---the second step in the selective process---are routine checks on physical appearance and legal requirements as to weight, height and so forth.

The chief of the department is the appointing authority in about one-half of the state police departments, while the personnel of five is selected through civil service and in several others by appointment by various state officials and boards. Little or no weight is given to veteran's preference in most departments.

In selecting personnel, applicants usually are given credit for work at recognized police schools and for previous police experience. The Division said that "as a matter of principle, if examinations are competitive, all candidates should enter on an equal basis---otherwise preferences are prone to become a convenient back door for those who cannot qualify at the main entrance."

Probationary periods exist in about two-thirds of the departments, varying in length from a few weeks in most states to three years in a few. Progress reports usually are required on the new members of the force.

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Minimum and maximum entrance ages are specified by most of the departments, with 21 years the usual minimum. Maximum age limits range from 30 to 40 years, though in the majority of departments persons over 40 are not eligible. Most state police departments have weight and height qualifications also, and a candidate weighing around 150 pounds is preferred. One weighing less than 140 or more than 220 pounds seldom is eligible. While individuals less than 5 feet 7 inches tall are not often considered, few departments prescribe height limitations.

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Municipal
Tarboro, N.C. Milk Plant's Only Model For Municipal Ownership

While municipal milk plants have been proposed in several cities, Tarboro, N.C., population approximately 7,140, is the only city in the United States which operates a milk distribution business as a public utility, the International City Managers' Association reports.

Tarboro's plant was established in 1918 when, in answer to the need for a pasteurized milk supply, the city found it necessary to start its own milk processing and distributing enterprise.

Two foreign cities---Wellington, New Zealand, and Rome---are known to distribute milk as a public enterprise. Wellington began its milk utility about the same time as Tarboro.

The Tarboro plant pays no taxes, unlike that of the New Zealand city, which pays local taxes on the same basis as owners of private property.

City officials say the 1940 audit set the city's investment at \$15,592. Milk plant construction and equipment have been financed from general tax funds while operating expenses come exclusively from sales of milk and milk products.

A federal study showed that in 1936, Tarboro housewives were buying milk at 12 cents a quart compared with prices ranging up to 16 cents a quart in various other North Carolina cities. Farmers were paid equal or higher prices than producers elsewhere in the state.

The city distributes free milk to needy families inside its limits. Each case is acted upon individually when request is made by the county welfare department and the need for milk is confirmed by the attending physician.

Regularity in delivery of milk to a customer's home is dependent upon payment of his milk bill. Only a few stores sell fresh milk products and there are no roadside stands outside the city limits, so the only way a customer can avoid payment is to move away from the city. Bootlegging of unpasteurized milk is said to be negligible.

Determination of the milk distribution policy, including price determination, rests with the board of city commissioners, which includes a milk commissioner. The plant manager is responsible for operations. Principal bookkeeping functions are centered in the office of the city clerk.

The municipally-owned plant is used as a selling point in a merchants' association folder advertising the city.

While municipal milk plants have been proposed in several cities, Tarboro,

N.C., population approximately 7,140, is the only city in the United States which operates a milk distribution business as a public utility, the International City

Tarboro's plant was established in 1918 when, in answer to the need for a

Two foreign cities--Wellington, New Zealand, and Rome--are known to distribute milk as a public enterprise. Wellington began its milk utility about the same time as Tarboro.

The Tarboro plant pays no taxes, unlike that of the New Zealand city, which pays local taxes on the same basis as owners of private property. City officials say the 1940 audit set the city's investment at \$10,000. Milk plant construction and equipment have been financed from general tax funds while

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Camera Investigators Recover \$10,000 In Tobacco Taxes For Massachusetts

Massachusetts, a tobacco-tax state, is conducting a profitable war on cigarette bootleggers through camera investigators of the state department of corporations and taxation. More than \$10,000 has been recovered, at a cost of about \$400, by agents working on holidays and weekends.

The picture taking has been concentrated on activities at a roadside stand in Maine---which has no tobacco tax---on the Maine-New Hampshire boundary line, according to information to the Federation of Tax Administrators from the National Tobacco Tax Conference.

When a Massachusetts car stops at the stand and the driver purchases cartons of cigarettes, the camera investigator notes the number of cartons purchased and snaps a picture of the purchaser and his automobile license plates.

After the license is checked at the Massachusetts motor registry, letters are sent to the offenders reminding them that they must pay for importing cigarettes unless they are licensed distributors. The pictures are used only when necessary to bring about quick results. In nearly all cases a check comes back by return mail.

Massachusetts officials are so pleased at results that they plan using the camera-investigator system at other points to check tobacco smugglers.

* * *

City Drafts Married Men For Fire Duty

Going the national government one better, the Calexico, Calif., fire department has initiated compulsory service for married men, information to the American Municipal Association said today.

Employment in nearby aircraft factories so depleted the ranks of the volunteer department that Chief Jim Brazie drafted married men for night stand-by duty along with the remaining bachelors who customarily sleep at the fire hall.

* * *

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Defense program

Municipal Programs For 1941 Support National Defense, Seek More Revenues

Municipal programs for 1941 give firm support to the national emergency defense program and continue campaigns for increased shares of state-collected tax revenues and home rule, the American Municipal Association said today after a study of 1941 programs adopted recently by cities of 33 states.

The study shows also that cities, through their municipal leagues, oppose federal taxation of income from municipal bonds and securities, and seek more equitable insurance rates on municipal property. Many cities would like to see an extension of terms of elective officers from two to four years, and a few approve extension of the social security act to include municipal employees.

Municipal leagues of 21 states covered by the study went on record for increased shares in state-collected revenues obtained from taxes on gasoline, liquor and tobacco, and from automobile license fees. Such revenues would be used mostly for construction and maintenance of local streets and highways, a problem considered acute by many cities.

Minnesota cities favor maintaining the present 4 cent gasoline tax, with a requirement that counties allocate funds from this tax to cities for use on their streets. Kentucky cities will propose to the 1941 legislature that the state highway department maintain federal highways running within city limits, while Texas cities will seek to have the state highway department assume costs of building and maintaining state highways within city limits.

Increased shares of state-collected revenues are desired for other purposes also, as shown by the study. Ohio municipalities seek enabling legislation to give them new sources of tax revenue to finance local relief. Montana cities ask for a share of state liquor store profits to spend on upkeep of local police departments.

Proposals to tax municipal bonds and securities, opposed generally by cities, were met at recent state municipal league meetings---including those of Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon and Pennsylvania---by resolutions of opposition. Of the many cities favoring home rule several, including cities of Iowa, Montana, North Carolina and Washington, resolved to seek it through state legislative action or constitutional amendments.

Three states---Iowa, Kansas and Oregon---are on record favoring extension of the social security act to municipal employees. North Carolina cities favor a state-wide retirement system for local government employes in which cities can participate by action of their governing bodies instead of by referendum. A Georgia league resolution

(MORE)

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asks the 1941 legislature to prepare a pension bill financed by a deduction of 3 per cent of employes' wages, plus a contribution of 2 per cent by cities.

Municipalities of Iowa and Montana are among those which will work in 1941 for extension of local elective officials' terms from two to four years, while North Dakota cities are on record as favoring village elections every two years instead of annually. Washington cities favor repeal of state constitutional provisions limiting tenure of office of county officials to two terms.

Specific tax problems will receive attention during 1941 by many cities. Municipalities of Michigan will ask their 1941 legislature to amend the state intangibles act so "owners will be required to pay their obligations to government." Minnesota cities will oppose extension of overall tax limitations, Missouri cities would like to have city purchases exempted from the sales tax, while Texas municipalities will ask legislation either exempting or refunding taxes on city-owned and operated motor vehicles.

Programs adopted by the 33 state municipal leagues contain many other interesting features, including:

Utah cities resolved to cooperate with the state traffic safety council in its efforts to set up a uniform traffic code, and Ohio municipalities went on record for compulsory inspection of motor vehicles.

Iowa, Kentucky and several other states will work in 1941 for the establishment of uniform accounting systems for their cities.

Montana's municipal league wants legislation enabling cities and towns to make unpaid water bills liens on real property.

Montana cities would like to have police courts authorized to suspend or revoke drivers' licenses.

California cities seek through their state league the cooperation of the state personnel board in arranging for examinations to set up lists of police chiefs for smaller cities interested in securing their services.

Missouri cities are interested in state enactment of public housing enabling legislation.

Georgia municipalities adopted a resolution that the state highway patrol be "kept out of politics." The patrol is operating efficiently, and the cities do not want this efficiency destroyed.

Illinois municipalities resolved to urge the state legislature to amend the state's vital statistics law to protect the birth record of the illegitimate child.

States Tighten Tax Exemption Qualifications For Charitable Property

Legislative action in Maine and Maryland, court decisions in New Hampshire and North Carolina, and the rejection of a constitutional amendment in Louisiana---all within the last two years---indicate a trend toward tightening up on tax exemptions for the property of religious, educational and charitable institutions, the National Association of Assessing Officers said today.

Maine and Maryland, where real and personal property used and owned by charitable and educational institutions have been exempt from taxes, require now that such property must not be administered for private gain if it is to be tax free.

The New Hampshire supreme court upheld a statute nullifying charter provisions which granted institutions perpetual exemption from taxation, holding that legislatures may not permanently waive the right to tax. Many colleges possess such old charters, the Association said, citing the Chrysler Building in New York, owned by the Cooper Union, as an example of property which escapes taxes as a result.

The North Carolina supreme court ruled that property owned by an institution must be used for institutional purposes to be exempt from taxes. As a result, two North Carolina counties alone placed on their tax books a total of over \$2,000,000 worth of religious, educational and charitable property which had been rented to private parties.

Louisiana citizens on November 5 rejected a proposed constitutional amendment exempting from taxes fraternal order buildings devoted to charitable purposes.

Every state grants some type of institutional exemption and sets up one or more requirements, or tests, which the property must meet to be exempt. Tests employed in various states to determine the taxable status of institutional property include those of use, ownership, profit, private gain and occupancy. Most common is the use test, which grants immunity from taxes if property is used for charitable, religious or educational purposes.

Lack of uniformity and clarity in court interpretations probably has resulted in the omission from the tax books of large amounts of property which legislatures never intended to exempt, the Association said.

The statutes say little on the administration of these exemptions, it was noted. Twenty states require assessors to list exempt property on the assessment roll; six require formal application for exemption each year and three states at less frequent intervals. A few states place a large share of the responsibility on their state tax departments. The Ohio Board of Tax Appeals, for example, must pass first upon all real property tax exemptions.

There is a general lack of figures on the amount of tax exempt, privately owned property in the states, but one expert has placed the figure at \$7,600,000,000, the bulk of which is institutional property, the Association said.

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Florida City Tells Of Burdens, Benefits From Industrial Promotion

Economic burdens and benefits resulting from a community's efforts to attract new industries were reported to the International City Manager's Association today by Fernandina, Fla., which said the campaign was started four years ago for the general welfare of the city and to provide a nearby market for southern slash pine timber stands in the area.

Favorable results of the campaign were construction of two large pulp and paper plants at a cost of \$8,550,000; increases of 150 per cent in local annual payrolls, 20 per cent in property values, 30 per cent in tax collections, and 33 per cent in population--from 3,000 to more than 4,000; and a decrease of 95 per cent in unemployment. Farmers and timber owners in the area are disposing of their slash pine at a profit.

Other results were on the unfavorable side, imposing additional financial burdens on the city government, city officials said. Construction of new streets, docks, and drainage facilities, and the development of mosquito control projects, made it necessary for the city to issue \$175,000 in bonds.

This issue was in addition to a bond issue of \$50,000 to pay the major part of a \$65,000 fee paid a promoter for his work in the campaign. The promoter's pay was on a fee basis--a percentage of capital invested.

Although many new houses have been built, 56 per cent of all homes in Fernandina are tax exempt under the \$5,000 homestead exemption law. It is anticipated by city officials that taxes on an additional 25 per cent of the homes will be delinquent, leaving only 19 per cent of the homes contributing to operating costs of the city government. The 81 per cent that are tax exempt or delinquent represent approximately 40 per cent of the assessed valuation of the city. In addition, the two paper mills are exempt from taxation until 1948; they occupy one-fourth of the community's total land area.

In an effort to meet these financial problems, the city now is levying the limit of 15 mills for operation expenses, on a 100 per cent valuation. Permit fees for building, plumbing and electrical inspection have been established, and sewer rental and garbage collection charges are contemplated. City officials say that with the most favorable collection experience these new sources of revenue will not prevent an increase in the tax rate, and the city expects to request the 1941 legislature to increase the millage limit to at least 30 mills.

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This issue was in addition to a bond issue of \$50,000 to pay for a part of a \$25,000 fee paid a promoter for his work in the campaign. The promoter's pay was on a fee basis--a percentage of capital invested.

Although many new houses have been built, 25 per cent of all houses in the city are tax exempt under the \$2,000 homestead exemption law. It is estimated that some 10 per cent of the houses are tax exempt on the basis of being vacant, leaving only 19 per cent of the houses contributing to operating costs of the city government. The 81 per cent of the houses are tax exempt on the basis of being vacant.

Also, the two paper mills are exempt from taxation until 1948; they occupy one-fourth of the community's total land area.

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States Have Many Sets Of Requirements For Judges, Study Shows

Many a judge would not be eligible to hold a similar position in a neighboring state because different qualifications are required, a study by the Council of State Governments showed today.

Requirements for judges differ widely in the 44 states which have citizenship or residence qualifications, or both, the 40 states which specify experience, and the 31 states which set a minimum age, according to the study.

Also differing were the qualifications required of the judges of the various courts listed---including supreme, chancery, probate, equity, common pleas, orphans', childrens', register's, surrogate's, arbitration, land, claims, municipal, quarterly, and appeal. Although called by different names by different states it was pointed out that these courts often have similar jurisdictions. For example, the surrogate's court in New York has the same jurisdiction as the probate court in other states.

Seventeen states provide that all or certain judges must be "learned in law." Some of these and other states specify that the judge shall have practiced law, sometimes for a certain length of time. For example, a vice-chancellor in New Jersey must have been a counselor at law of at least 10 years standing; a supreme court judge in Wyoming must have had nine years practice as lawyer, or practice and judgeship of nine years. Justices of the supreme court and district judges in New Mexico must have practiced law three years in the state, and a superior court judge in Arizona must have been admitted to practice before the highest court in the state for at least two years. In Wisconsin, a county judge must be an attorney if the county has a population of more than 14,000.

Other requirements specify that county judges in Arkansas must have a good business education; in North Carolina, they must believe in God; in Maine, judges of supreme and superior courts must possess sobriety of manners; and in Maryland, judges are chosen from lawyers most distinguished for integrity, wisdom and sound legal knowledge.

Seven states set a standard minimum age for judges---30 years in New Mexico, Idaho and West Virginia; 25 in Wisconsin, Nevada and Alabama; and "full age"---21 years---in New York.

The minimum age is highest for supreme court judges. Three states---Kentucky, Louisiana and Tennessee---set the minimum at 35 years; 20 states set a minimum of 30 years; Alabama, Florida, Nevada and Wisconsin set a minimum of 25 years; and the minimum in South Carolina is 26 years.

For all or certain judges of other courts, the minimum age requirement ranges from 35 years for circuit court judges in Kentucky down to 24 years for probate and county judges in Missouri, with most states having age requirements setting the minimum at 25 or 30 years.

Residence requirements also vary. In Arizona, for example, a supreme court judge must have been a resident of the state for five years preceding; a judge of superior court, two years. In North Carolina, judges must be voters; in Oklahoma, they must be U.S. citizens, residents of the state two years, and of the district for one year.

Information contained in the study was gathered by the New York Legislative Reference Library.

Many a judge would not be eligible to hold a similar position in a neighboring state because different qualifications are required, a study by the Council of State Governments showed today.

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Housing associations
Citizen Housing Associations Play Part In National Housing Program

Public housing in the United States is receiving the cooperation of a growing number of local citizens' housing organizations, the total reaching 41 in 33 cities recently with the establishing of citizens' housing groups in Baltimore, Sacramento, and Quincy, Ill.

In addition, the San Francisco Housing Association was revived recently, a California State Housing Association of local groups has been formed, while the National Committee of Housing Associations, a national organization of local groups, is in the formative stage.

The first local citizens' housing group was the Association for Improving the Conditions of the Poor, organized in 1853 in New York City, according to the National Association of Housing Officials. Local groups formed since then and still functioning include the Housing Association of Metropolitan Boston, the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council of Detroit, the Chicago Metropolitan Housing Council, and the Better Housing League of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Inc.

Activities of the citizens' organizations are contributing to public housing in many fields, according to the National Association of Housing Officials. Besides engaging in research, the groups campaign for enforcement of health, sanitary and building codes, stimulate new building and the improvement of the old; conduct housekeeping services and training courses; investigate rents, sales, foreclosures, vacancies and construction of buildings; conduct public education and appreciation campaigns; and cooperate with and consolidate efforts of other social agencies of the city.

Their work enables the local groups to evaluate and to arouse civic interest in the programs of public and private housing, and to offer constructive criticisms and suggestions, the Association said.

Most of the organizations are financed by membership dues and contributions; several receive financial support from their local Community Chests or similar organizations. Last year the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council of Detroit received a gift of \$10,000 to help carry out its research program.

News bulletins and other publications are issued regularly by several local associations, including the Housing Association of Metropolitan Boston, the Better Housing League of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, O., and the Citizens' Housing Council of New York City.

Other cities where citizens' housing organizations are functioning include Albany, Brooklyn, Rochester and Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Baltimore, Cleveland, Denver, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Newark and Jersey City, N. J., Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington, D. C.* * *

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Boston Buys Coupes For Police Cruisers

Boston police are buying coupes instead of sedans at a reduction of \$100 a car in the purchase of a new lot of 23 cruisers, it was reported to the International City Managers' Association today. Single-seat police radio cars have been used in New York for some time.

Police officials said cruisers are not used in Boston to carry passengers or prisoners and there was no need for the back seat. They anticipate a saving in wear and tear through use of the smaller cars.

Most cities use police cruisers to transport prisoners, sometimes using them in conjunction with patrol wagons for this purpose and sometimes, particularly in smaller cities, eliminating the wagons altogether, the Association said.

* * *

Cincinnati Recreation Commission Conducts Safe Bicycle Riding Program

A program for safe bicycle riding, designed to curb accidents through education, is an outstanding feature of Cincinnati's Public Recreation Commission program, the American Municipal Association said today.

The Commission's two "recreation fields" include a total of five miles of bicycle trails, constructed to simulate the feeling of a country road.

Bicycles owned by the Commission can be rented for 25 cents an hour.

* * *

Portland, O., Municipal Employees Participate in Public Relations Series

Efforts to raise standards of courtesy and efficiency in city service have led Portland, Ore., municipal employees to participate this winter in a series of discussions on public relations, the American Municipal Association reported today. Public relations authorities have, and will, deliver lectures on various phases of the problems confronting public employees.

Attendance of city workers at the meetings, requested by city employees following a successful series last winter, is not compulsory.

* * *

Police For Police Officers

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Small City Builds \$90,000 Automobile Parking Garage

Welch, W.Va., is erecting above its city-owned parking lot a two-floor \$90,000 parking garage for automobiles of miners who come to town from the coal fields on paydays and Saturday nights, the International City Managers' Association said today.

Many cities own municipal parking lots, most of them, like Welch, utilizing city-owned land for this purpose. However, most cities spend little on the lots, with the exception of from \$50 to \$200 a year for maintenance, and ordinarily no attendants are supplied, the Association said.

The Welch lot, bought by the city in 1936 at a cost of \$20,000, provides space for only 80 cars and, except for a small off-street parking space operated by the chamber of commerce, is the only parking area within more than a mile of the business district.

Officials of the town, which has a population of 6,116, say the \$90,000 for the new garage will be raised by issuing serial bonds at $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent interest. When the building is finished, the city probably will charge two cents an hour for parking, with a minimum charge of 10 cents which, it is estimated, will pay operating and interest costs. Annual payments on the principal will be paid from receipts of a gross sales tax which local merchants have approved.

The city has been charging 10 cents a day and 25 cents overnight for use of the parking lot. Revenues have been sufficient to pay operating expenses and to retire original bonds at the rate of \$1,000 a year plus interest charges at five per cent---a total of about \$4,000 a year.

Among the unusual parking areas operated by municipalities are those of Kalamazoo, Mich., Detroit and Philadelphia, and Rockville Center, N.Y.

Kalamazoo operates a parking lot "for shoppers only" in the heart of the city's business district. The area accommodates 400 or more cars, is paved and lighted, and equipped with attendant's office, drinking fountain and comfort station. There is no charge for the first two hours parking, but 10 cents is charged for the third hour and five cents per hour thereafter. Parking is free between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. Purchase and construction costs will be paid eventually through special assessments on business property.

Suburban motorists in Detroit park on municipally-owned lots, and in Philadelphia on municipally-owned but privately-operated lots, near the business districts. In return for the parking fee they are given round-trip tickets to their offices on city transit lines. Car owners are charged 15 cents a day for parking in Detroit and 25 cents in Philadelphia.

Upon payment of \$1, motorists of Rockville Center receive a metal tag from the city which allows them four hours parking, every day in the year, in the municipal parking lots.

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San Antonio Policemen Take Full College Course While Continuing Regular Duties

San Antonio policemen may obtain a full four-year college education while continuing their regular duties in the police department under a program developed jointly by city officials and a local college.

While it may take most of the 23 policemen attending classes at St. Mary's college six or seven years to obtain graduation credits, they will receive Bachelor of Arts degrees and Certificates of Police Administration when they do graduate. The policemen are "freshmen" now since this is the first year of the program.

The program is planned to give San Antonio's police department as efficient administration and personnel as possible, the American Municipal Association said today. During the first half of their college work, policemen will take standard liberal arts courses covering sociology, psychology, criminology, chemistry and sciences.

The second half will deal with police science and administration, with most of the courses to be taught by police officials. Among the courses to be offered are criminal law and evidence, police problems and administration, traffic control, identification and police records.

Most of the policemen composing the "freshman" class are non-college men who volunteered to attend classes on a part-time basis, taking about 10 hours a semester. Their work schedules have been arranged by the police department so they may attend classes at a minimum of hardship. Most of the policemen work late afternoon and early night shifts.

Most of the policemen attending classes have joined the force during the last two or three years, although a few are "oldtimers." It is planned to have a new group start through every year.

The educational program is patterned after the one started in Wichita, Kan., some years ago---and still in operation---by then Chief of Police O.W. Wilson, in which the policemen-scholars worked on the force half-time drawing half-pay, and attended Wichita university half-time. Chief Wilson now is professor of police administration at the University of California, Berkeley.

One of the young members of Wilson's force when the Wichita program first was started was Ray Ashworth, who as chief of the San Antonio department now is carrying on a similar program. Other members of the Wichita force who have taken the university courses and now hold responsible positions include Chief W. E. Taylor of Greendale, Wis.; Chief L. E. Bowery of Wichita, Kan.; Chief Neil Anderson of Flint, Mich.; Chief Rex Andrews of Highland Park, Ill.; Chief W. K. Ingram of South Bend, Ind.; and Supt. W. P. Moomau of the Kansas State Highway Patrol.

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Public Housing Development Tenants Paint Own Homes, Save \$9,750 Labor Costs

Tenants at Lockfield Gardens, an Indianapolis low-rent housing development, have saved the project an average of \$19.50 per dwelling by repainting interiors of their own homes, the National Association of Housing Officials reported today. Total savings to date represent about \$9,750.

Lockfield Gardens is one of the projects built by the Public Works Administration housing division, and now under management of the United States Housing Authority. In line with USHA's general tenant maintenance policy, Lockfield is cutting maintenance costs by giving as much responsibility as possible to the tenants. Besides assuring the lowest possible rents, this policy gives tenants a personal pride in their homes.

It would have cost approximately \$30 an interior to have hired painters for the job, according to officials of the Lockfield development. With tenants doing their own redecorating, actual costs average \$10.50 per home, spent for paint and materials furnished by the management.

Five hundred interiors already have been done; about 250 remain to be redecorated next spring.

* * *

Texas City Obtains \$100 Daily From Sale Of Waste-Water From Sewage Treatment Plant

Corpus Christie, Tex., obtains a daily revenue of \$100 from the sale of sewage plant waste-water to a local refinery, where it is used in operation of the cooling system, the American Public Works Association said today.

To be sold to the refinery, the waste-water must be given a special treatment to remove all settleable solids. The refinery purchases this water at about one-fifth the cost of regularly-treated city water.

The city also obtains revenue up to \$40 a day, depending upon weather conditions, from the sale of air-dried and pulverized sewage sludge for fertilizer.

* * *

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Mississippi Town Moves To New Location To Aid In Flood Control Program

Coldwater, Miss., is the latest of five communities to seek a new location to aid in flood control or to escape flood dangers, the American Society of Planning Officials said today.

Hill, N.H., and Greenville, Mo., are in the process of relocating because their present sites will be flooded by waters behind new dams. Shawneetown, Ill., and Leavenworth, Ind., have nearly finished moving to higher and drier sites because, menaced for years by high waters, they were all but swept away by Ohio river floods in 1937.

Coldwater is a town of about 1,000 population on the Coldwater river 32 miles south of Memphis, Tenn. In about a month, residents will begin moving the town to a new location two miles south on higher ground. This is necessary because backwaters from a new federal flood control dam, to be built soon, will cover the present site during flood periods.

The federal government is purchasing through Army engineers the land on which the town now is located, and all surrounding land which will be flooded by building of the dam. The government is paying cash for the land, and giving owners ample time to clear the property of buildings, fences and shrubbery which could be used at the new site.

Only a few of the homes will be moved, the Association said. The majority of buildings on the new location will be of new construction using as much salvage material from old buildings as possible. Owners may build whatever size and cost homes they desire, using the money they receive from the government for new construction, and financing additional costs as they see fit.

Plans call for the construction of a modern town. Coldwater officials are attempting to work out a method of awarding construction contracts in groups, and of quantity purchasing. City ordinances and building codes are being prepared so that building and zoning codes and other types of restrictions are available to guide development of the new town.

The Association pointed out that another town---Bandon, Ore.---has just completed a complete reconstruction, but on the same site it was located before a fire in 1937 destroyed the town completely.

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State Health Departments Emphasize Improved Administration

Recent expansion of the scope of state health departments to include such activities as public health education and industrial hygiene in addition to quarantine and control of epidemics, has been accompanied by an increased emphasis on principles of organization and effective administration, a study by the Council of State Governments showed today.

A definite trend toward establishment of merit systems or civil service procedures for the selection of health department personnel is apparent, the Council said. In 19 states the personnel must possess civil service qualifications, except for medical staffs and in some states a few other types of employes.

Civil service laws became effective in Alabama and Minnesota late in 1939, and in Rhode Island and Tennessee on January 1, 1940. New Hampshire, Oklahoma and Wyoming reported recently that civil service programs for their departments were in preparation.

An emerging trend toward employment of social workers as staff members of public health departments is evident in 13 states, the study showed. Texas heads the list with the employment of 22 social workers.

Although the head of each state health department must be a physician, there is considerable variation in additional qualifications. Nineteen states require the director of public health to have either training or experience or both in the field of public health; 16 states require him to be a trained sanitarian. Laws of six states say the director must have been a practicing physician for five years, while two others---New York and Pennsylvania---require 10 years of medical practice.

While the average term of a health director is four years, directors in several states including Connecticut and Mississippi serve six-year terms. In nine states directors serve at the pleasure of the board of health; in two, at the

(MORE)

pleasure of the governor. Reports from 35 states show that in 19 the director is a member of the state board of health; in 11 he is not a member; and in five he is eligible for membership.

Forty-four states have boards of health ranging in size from three members in Florida to 15 in Georgia. The boards serve in an advisory capacity to the health director in 19 states, and exercise administrative control over the department in 25 states. The director is chosen by the board in 18 of these 25 states, and by the governor in the other seven. There is no health board in Nebraska, Oklahoma, Idaho or Rhode Island. Rhode Island, however, has an advisory council, and Idaho's Board of Public Welfare acts as an advisory board for the entire department of public welfare, of which the division of public health is a part.

Size of the staff of each state public health department is related to population of the state, according to the study. Pennsylvania's health department, for example, has a staff of 1,980, while New York's department has 1,737. Staff sizes range down to 32 in Nevada. There are 147 physicians on the staff in New York, only three in Wyoming.

The principal function of the early state health departments, organized primarily to prevent spread of disease, was the combating of epidemics through quarantine regulations. In later years this form of control was supplemented by vaccination and other forms of immunization. More recently, attention has been centered on such communicable diseases as tuberculosis, typhoid fever, syphilis and gonorrhea.

Within the last few years, however, the emphasis has shifted from disease control through quarantine to public health education, public health nursing, industrial hygiene, sanitary engineering and other activities far beyond the original function of disease suppression.

State Health Departments Expand Scope Of Activities

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of three stories on organization and administration of state health departments, and extent of their services. The third story will appear next week.)

Steady expansion of the scope of public health administration and of medical science is opening new and important areas of activity by state health departments in the prevention of illness and reduction of mortality rates, according to a study by the Council of State Governments.

Most important, perhaps, the Council said, is the recent and vigorous nation-wide campaign for the control of syphilis, which has assumed larger proportions in a brief period than any other similar movement. The first pre-marital examination law went into effect in Connecticut in 1936. Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin followed in 1937. In 1938, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Rhode Island joined the list. Six states passed pre-marital test laws in 1939, and five more in 1940. At present, 20 states with more than 50 per cent of the nation's population require health tests for both bride and groom before marriage licenses will be issued.

Twenty-eight states maintain special programs for tuberculosis control, and in many of them county, state and municipal hospitals carry on active services. Many tuberculous individuals are discovered, before the disease passes the easy control stage, by large-scale testing of adolescents in school clinics and other health centers.

Although especial attention is given pneumonia control programs by 17 states, their efforts are more recent and less fully developed than venereal disease and tuberculosis control. However, efforts to apply newly acquired knowledge in the prevention and cure of pneumonia are bearing results, the study showed.

At least 13 states have appropriated funds or set up agencies to participate actively in the campaign against cancer, 27 state departments have

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bureaus or divisions of industrial hygiene, 35 have dental units or bureaus, and nearly all states have improved their public health nursing, engineering, and vital statistics functions in recent years. Some state health departments have set up services for the treatment of trachoma, malaria and poliomyelitis. New York this year opened a preventative campaign against trichinosis by establishing a state trichinosis commission, the first in the country.

Formulation and enforcement of public health standards with respect to dairies, canneries, food manufacturers, restaurants, and water and sewage system, have become increasingly important functions of health departments of many states. State health inspection systems have been made more effective during recent years.

The problem of milk sanitation and control is assigned to the public health departments in Arkansas, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon and Pennsylvania. In many states, health departments are responsible also for sanitary engineering work, which includes examination of plans, specifications and maps of public and semi-public water supply systems, sewage treatment and disposal, and bacteriological checks upon the quality of water supplies.

Thirty-seven state departments now have divisions or bureaus engaged in the promotion and supervision of local health services. According to the study, 25 states make definite appropriations to local governments for health work. In addition, seven states pay all or part of the salaries of health officers, nurses, sanitarians, and other personnel who carry on or assist in the work of local health departments.

A variety of state agencies have charge of administration of crippled children's health programs. In 22 states health departments direct these services; in 15 they are administered by welfare departments; in six, by departments of education. In five other states crippled children's commissions manage this service. All 48 states have maternal and child health divisions, many strengthened by the appointment of additional physicians and technical personnel.

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Federal-State Collaboration Assists Campaign For Better Public Health Programs

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third and final of a series of stories on organization and administration of state health departments, and the extent of their services).

Although the states are responsible for the administration of their public health programs, a number of relationships between federal and state agencies have been developed and are maintained to their mutual advantage, a study by the Council of State Governments showed today.

In addition to the U.S. Public Health Service and the Children's bureau, which deal with health as a major activity, there are at least 20 federal agencies concerned directly or indirectly with various phases of public health. Many of them work directly with the states and several cooperate with state health departments in collecting data on health activities throughout the nation.

The U.S. Public Health Service at present is making a comprehensive study of the organization and functions of health departments of the states, and of Canada and the Canadian provinces. To be published soon, the report also will cover personnel and expenditures.

A number of federal agencies engage in scientific research dealing with health problems, and their findings are used by state, county and city health departments. All state health departments work closely with the Bureau of the Census. The Department of Agriculture has assisted in the development and promotion of food and drug inspection. Close cooperation between many states and the U.S. Housing Authority was shown by the study.

Health departments of Minnesota, Oklahoma and South Dakota report special cooperation with the Office of Indian Affairs, while the Colorado department works closely with the Bureau of Animal Industry. State sanitary engineers of Connecticut and other states pool their data concerning stream gauging and water supply with the U.S. Geological Survey.

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The federal subsidy to encourage the states in their prevention campaigns against communicable diseases was put on a permanent basis in 1938, and has been of assistance in the development of state health services.

Proposals are being made that state public health departments extend the scope of their present activities to include the treatment of disease, according to the Council's study.

Federal grants to state health departments for recent fiscal periods range from approximately \$50,000 to more than \$900,000 for general public health. Added to this, grants for combating venereal diseases range from \$14,000 to more than \$200,000. The states receive also separate federal grants, under the Social Security Act, for maternal and child health and crippled children's services.

Development of state programs illustrates the value of this assistance. In 1935, at the beginning of the social security program, there were over-all state crippled children's programs in only 30 states; increased federal appropriations have made it possible for all states to provide such services. Prior to enactment of the Social Security Act there were only 31 states with divisions of maternal and child health, and only 22 of these had full-time directors. At present all 48 states have maternal and child health divisions and many have been strengthened by appointment of additional physicians and technical personnel.

State legislative expenditures for public health services range from \$17,000 in Nevada to \$4,500,000 in New York; the states' annual total expenditures, bolstered by federal funds, range from about \$90,000 to more than \$5,500,000, according to a compilation of fiscal information by the Council. In 25 states the annual expenditures include grants made to local communities.

On a per capita basis the states spend through their health departments an average of 11 cents a year, although in some states appropriations fall as low as three cents per capita, according to the findings of the Inter-Departmental Committee to Coordinate Health and Welfare Activities.

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No Drastic Over-All Tax Limitations Adopted Since 1933

With the defeat of a proposed tax limitation amendment in Arizona on Nov. 5, 1940, not a single state has adopted a drastic constitutional limit to the amount of taxes on property since New Mexico in 1933, the Municipal Finance Officers Association said today.

Two other important tax limitation measures were voted upon Nov. 5, however. In Washington, a statutory measure limiting to 40 mills the total levy on real and personal property for state and local purposes was re-enacted. In Alabama, the voters defeated a proposed amendment which would have liberalized the limitation in that state by allowing certain cities to increase their tax rates up to 1% of the value of the property.

The most drastic of tax limitations, the over-all rate limits which set the bounds for all state and local property taxation, exist in eight states---in Indiana, Rhode Island and Washington by statute, and in Michigan, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, and West Virginia by constitutional restrictions, according to the Association.

"Binding over-all constitutional tax limitations have generally resulted in injury to local government morale through temporary destruction of their sources of revenue, the transfer of functions from cities to states, and the replacement of local taxes on property with state taxes, usually some form of the general sales tax," the Association said.

In West Virginia, following adoption of an over-all limitation in 1932, some cities cut salaries and wages drastically, discharged many employes, cut out street lights, discontinued garbage collection, curtailed fire protection, and closed schools, said the Association. State grants-in-aid were necessary in the readjustments which followed.

In Washington, where the situation was less difficult, the state levied a general sales tax, a cigarette tax, and taxes on the gross of business enterprises following the limitation of taxes on property. In Michigan, the limitation act applies to all local units except cities, which must first agree by local referendum to accept the limitation. In this state, the schools were first to suffer and the sales tax was used to reimburse the state school fund for its loss of real estate taxes.

Rhode Island adopted an over-all limit of 2.5 per cent in 1878. The 3.15 per cent limitation adopted by Oklahoma in 1907 was cut to 1.7 per cent by a constitutional amendment in 1933. The cut was accompanied by the development of other sources of revenue, including the cigarette and retail sales tax, and an increase in the rates of certain other state taxes.

THE LIMITATION OF THE TAXATION OF ESTATE

With the effect of a proposed bill, the limitation of the tax on the estate of a decedent who has died in the United States, or who has died in a foreign country, and who has been domiciled in the United States at the time of his death, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Two other important tax limitation measures were voted upon Nov. 5, however. The first was a measure to amend the law relating to the taxation of the estate of a decedent who has died in a foreign country, and who has been domiciled in the United States at the time of his death. The second was a measure to amend the law relating to the taxation of the estate of a decedent who has died in the United States, or who has died in a foreign country, and who has been domiciled in the United States at the time of his death.

The most drastic of tax limitations, the overall rate limit which set the ceiling for all estate and gift taxes combined, was passed by a vote of 75 to 25. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25.

"Binding over-all constitutional tax limitations have generally resulted in the form of a limit on the total amount of tax payable by the estate of a decedent, or by the donor of a gift. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25. The measure was passed by a vote of 75 to 25.

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